

ACT 1039 Dyslexia Screening & Interventions

Dyslexia Program

Act 1039 requires all Arkansas Schools to have a **Dyslexia Program** in place to further evaluate students identified as having characteristics of dyslexia and then to provide intervention. Lafayette County School District primarily uses **Barton Reading and Spelling System** developed by Susan Barton for grades 7-12 and the **Sonday System** developed by Arlene Sonday for grades K-6. Both Barton and Sonday systems are teaching methods created for students with dyslexia characteristics based on the highly structured Orton-Gillingham approach. Both are simultaneously multisensory explicit and systematic phonics programs.

Universal Screening

Act 1039 requires universal screening in kindergarten through second grade for indicators of dyslexia, as well as selective screening in grades three through twelve. Lafayette County School District currently uses a combination of **DIBELS Next** (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills), **DSA** (Developmental Spelling Analysis), **AR-RAN** (Arkansas Rapid Automatized Naming Screener), **STAR Reading**, **PAST** (Phonological Awareness Skills Test), and other local screeners. The universal screeners are also part of Lafayette County School District's comprehension **Response to Intervention** (RTI) program.

Lafayette County Elementary School has implemented a school wide RTI program (Cub Time) for grades 1-6. Cub Time is a thirty minute time slot for small group reading interventions. Students are grouped according to an intervention that is needed to ensure reading improvement.

Student Data

During the 2017-18 school year, thirteen students were assessed for dyslexia characteristics. Currently, six students have exhibited identifying characteristics of dyslexia and are receiving interventions through one of the approved phonological programs that LCSD has adopted. Two of those assessed will begin services in the 2018-19 school year.