



# West Mifflin Area School District Interventions

## Academic Support Initiatives

### Acadience Math & Reading

Acadience Reading equips educators with research-based tools that identify exactly where students are struggling so they can receive instructional support and get back on track. Acadience Math helps educators gauge foundational math skills and provide targeted instruction where needed.

### ALEKS

ALEKS is an artificially intelligent learning and assessment system that has been used by over 25 million students for Math, Chemistry, Statistics and Accounting. After quickly and accurately determining each student's precise knowledge of a subject, ALEKS helps the student work on the topics they are ready to learn. ALEKS intelligence, content and software are unique and proprietary; they have been developed together, and work in unison. ALEKS digital content provides comprehensive course coverage.

### Classroom Diagnostic Tools (CDT)

CDT is a set of online tools designed to provide diagnostic information in order to guide instruction and provide support to students and teachers. These tools assist educators in identifying students' academic strengths and areas of need, providing links to classroom resources.

### Double-Block ELA & math classes

In double-block classes, there is an increased span of teaching time, longer cooperative learning activities can be completed in one class period. The teacher is able to provide more varied instruction during class, and find it easier to interact with students with disabilities and different learning styles. During the second half of a class, it gives the opportunity to pull students for remediation.

### Drop-out Prevention

This in-house program will work collaboratively between the Titan Cyber Academy teachers and high school staff to target our at-risk students. This program will give a pathway for our at-risk students who have a history of course failure. "At-risk" students are defined as those failing to achieve basic proficiency in key subjects or exhibiting behaviors that can lead to failure and/or dropping out of school. This program will employ online learning along with in-person support. This will allow students to accumulate credits at their own pace, thereby empowering them to take control of their learning.

## ELA and Math Coaches

An elementary ELA or math coach is an instructional coordinator who specializes in the development of curricula at elementary schools. They begin by evaluating an elementary school's ELA or math program, and they devise an improvement strategy based on their findings.

## Essential Skills

Essential Skills is North America's leading online educational software provider for K-6, older remedial students, special education, ELL & response to intervention. It assists with struggling students and enhances the success in educational experiences in the classroom.

## Houghton Mifflin Harcourt (HMH)

HMH provides teachers a digital component of the curriculum that assesses students for academic growth. HMH's Reporting Suite provides a standards-aligned view of student achievement across benchmark and in-program assessments. Shared reporting gives teachers a more comprehensive view of student achievement to drive differentiation.

## IXL

The IXL platform is a personalized digital learning space that covers K-12 curriculum and is used by more than 12 million students. With over 8,500 skills in math, English language arts, science, social studies, and Spanish, this is a very comprehensive service. By using a curriculum base, actionable analytics, real-time diagnostics, and personalized guidance, educators are given the tools to help students target specific learning goals.

## Multi-Tiered System of Supports

MTSS is designed to help schools identify struggling students early and intervene quickly. It focuses on the "whole child." That means it supports academic growth, but many other areas, too. These include behavior, social and emotional needs, and absenteeism (not attending school). All students in Tier I, II, and III are serviced by the District.

## Number Corners

Number Corners is an essential component of Bridges in Mathematics but can be used to complement any K-5 curricula. Number Corner is a skill-building program that revolves around the classroom calendar, providing daily practice as well as continual encounters with broader mathematical concepts in 15-20 minutes of engaging instruction.

## Personal Management Class

Students learn to interact and communicate effectively with their peers and with authority figures. Personal Management targets: perspective-taking, conversation skills, friendship skills, problem-solving, social competence, emotion recognition, theory of mind, and problem-solving.

## SpringMath

SpringMath is teacher-led and incorporates research-proven paired learning — meaning it doesn't rely on independent student screen time. Students achieve math mastery and long-term math confidence through paper and pencil, "show-what-you-know" learning. SpringMath is built on a robust foundation of embedded coaching and support for each teacher as well as access to support documentation and help.

## School-Wide Positive Behavior Interventions (PBIS)

Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) is an evidence-based, tiered framework for supporting students' behavioral, academic, social, emotional, and mental health. When implemented with fidelity, PBIS improves social emotional competence, academic success, and school climate.

## SuccessMaker

The SuccessMaker program is a set of computer-based courses used to supplement regular classroom reading instruction in grades K–8. Using adaptive lessons tailored to a student's reading level, SuccessMaker aims to improve understanding in areas such as phonological awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, comprehension, and concepts of print.

## Specially Designed Instruction Procedures (SDI)

The special education teacher/case manager/gifted support teacher, is responsible for disseminating the IEP at A Glance, which includes Specially Designed Instruction (SDI) pages/copies to all teachers for each student every school year, as well as making general education teachers aware of the contents of the student's IEP, strengths, and needs.

## Waggle

Waggle® is a digital learning solution that goes beyond adaptive learning to provide personalized practice and instruction to support skills-diversity in the classroom. With skills-based practice that assesses knowledge in real-time, teachers are able to support the needs of all learners.

## WonderWorks

WonderWorks is a flexible intervention program that can easily be incorporated into the current English Language Arts (ELA) curriculum. WonderWorks research-based instruction includes a teacher modeling approach that moves to guided practice—ultimately leading students to become independent readers.

## **Bullying Intervention/Social Emotional Learning Initiatives**

West Mifflin Area High School strives to provide a safe, positive learning climate for students in our school. Our team defines bullying as intentional behavior, which is typically repeated, that hurts, harms, or humiliates a student, either physically or emotionally, and can happen while at school, in the

community, or online. We have incorporated multiple programs and interventions to provide support to both the victims and offenders of bullying:

#### Red Ribbon Week

Red Ribbon Week is an alcohol, tobacco, and other drug and violence prevention awareness campaign observed annually in October in the United States. It began as a tribute to fallen DEA special agent Enrique Camerena in 1985. According to the United States DEA, Red Ribbon Week is the nation's largest and longest-running drug awareness and prevention program. Today, the Red Ribbon serves as a catalyst to mobilize communities to educate youth and encourage participation in drug prevention activities.

#### Disabilities Awareness Week

Disability Awareness Week (DAW) continues the tradition of National Access Awareness Week first established in 1988 to promote better community access for people with disabilities. The main goal of DAW is to raise public awareness of existing barriers that prevent citizens with disabilities from full and equal participation in all aspects of their community and what may be done to correct these problems. We also want to celebrate examples of best practices and advancements made towards full inclusion for citizens with disabilities.

#### Family Behavioral Resources (FBR)

Family Behavioral Resources is a team of talented and dedicated clinicians and therapists that provide world class mental health care to consumers of all ages. FBR works in local schools, homes and communities, serving children with diagnosed behavioral and mental health disorders. They also provide Outpatient Mental Health Therapy in numerous locations throughout the states of Pennsylvania and Ohio.

#### Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA)

GSA is a student-led or community-based organization, found in middle schools, high schools, colleges, and universities. These are primarily in the United States and Canada. Gay-straight alliance is intended to provide a safe and supportive environment for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and all (LGBTQ+) children, teenagers, and youth as well as their cisgender heterosexual allies.

#### Girls Only Leadership Development (GOLD)

West Mifflin Area Middle School has started a GOLD program: Girls Only Leadership Development. WM community members or WM graduates come and meet with our middle school girls. The GOLD program focuses on female empowerment and bringing girls together despite their social differences. The program is run on a monthly basis after-school, and 2 breakout sessions during each meeting: one learning and one physical.

## Little Titans

The elementary counseling department believes in the personal potential of each and every student. The counselors offer small group counseling opportunities at Clara Barton and Homeville throughout the year to assist students to reach their full personal, social and academic potential. All groups are confidential. Students are considered for group participation based on teacher/administrator recommendations and parent request.

There are several possible small group topics including the following:

- Peer Relations and Social Skills
- Self Esteem
- Anger Management
- Changing Families/Divorce
- Managing Stress & Anxiety

In addition to small groups the counselors push in the classrooms to teach social skills, emotions and student conflict as a whole class. During these class sessions students are able to role play in order to fully understand certain situations.

## Saltworks Anti-Bullying Assembly

Saltworks has provided schools with high energy, pertinent assemblies since 1983. Addressing issues like bullying, drugs and alcohol, social media, character education, etc., our shows educate, challenge, and inspire students to make healthy, positive choices in difficult situations. These are age appropriate plays for K-12, performed by 5 professional actors, followed by informative Q&A sessions.

## Student Assistance Program (SAP)

Student Assistance Program (SAP) The Pennsylvania Student Assistance Program (SAP) is a systematic team process used to mobilize school resources to remove barriers to learning. SAP is designed to assist in identifying issues including alcohol, tobacco, other drugs, and mental health issues which pose a barrier to a student's success.

## Stand Together

Stand Together is a student to student initiative to increase education, awareness and social inclusion for all students.

## Titan Academy

The Titan Academy is a true transitional education opportunity for "at risk" students. The mission is to eliminate past negative social and academic outcomes by learning personal, life, and academic skills in a positive, structured and reinforcing environment. The Titan Academy will prepare student to make a successful transition back to the regular education program, graduate, and have a realistic chance to achieve their life goals.

## Turtle Creek Valley Community Services (TCV)

TCV provides a continuum of services, care and support that empowers individuals, families and communities with behavioral, mental health, substance abuse and/or developmental issues to sustain their recovery and achieve the important possibilities in their lives.