

# WVBE Policy 2512 – Instructional Supports for Third and Eighth Grade Students to Achieve Critical Skills 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14

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On September 23, 2009, the West Virginia Board of Education (WVBE) approved **WVBE Policy 2512: Instructional Supports for Third and Eighth Grade Students to Achieve Critical Skills**. This policy was a result of WV Legislative action (Section 18-2E-10) involving critical skills instructional support for third and eighth grade students. Policy 2512 provides rules that encourage and assist county boards in operating critical skills instructional support for students in grades three and eight who are not mastering language arts and mathematics adequately for success at the next grade level. The supports are to occur before or after the instructional day, during the instructional day, and during the summer (for students who are recommended by the student assistance team or the classroom teacher).

WVBE Policy 2512 provides that, “The West Virginia Department of Education (WVDE) has the primary responsibility for providing leadership in (1) defining and developing the framework for the effective delivery of critical skills instructional support for students in grades three and eight; (2) assisting counties in the delivery of these instructional support through structures to maximize funding resources available; (3) developing online structures and systems to increase efficiency of delivery and accountability; and (4) designing reporting systems that assure the WVDE, the WV Legislature, and the Governor of monitored progress of critical skills instructional support,” (p. 2).

This summary shall provide background information, as well as a timeline detailing the WVDE administration of the Critical Skills Program since its inception in the fall of 2009.

## **Funding**

In **2009**, the WV Legislature appropriated **\$6.2 Million** in funding to support critical skills intervention for students in grades three and eight. The WVDE developed a distribution formula and allocated funds based upon the following criteria: total number of students enrolled in grades PK-12, total number of students enrolled in grades three and eight, and the total number of students retained in grades three and eight.

The first distribution was not available to Counties until January, 2010 and the final distribution was on June 1, 2010. Because the full grant awards were not available to Counties until spring 2010, unencumbered funds were extended as carry-over funds for Counties to use during the 2010-11 academic year. Table 1 reflects the expenditure of grant funds as approved in the 2009-10 grant applications.

**Table 1: 2009-2010 Expenditure of Grant Funds**

<b>Expenditure of Grant Funds Used to Support Intervention 2009-2010</b>						
<b>\$6.2 Million</b>						
<b>Personnel</b>	<b>Hardware</b>	<b>Software</b>	<b>Supplies</b>	<b>Transportation</b>	<b>Food</b>	<b>Professional Development/Other</b>
\$3,821,277	\$398,718	\$846,012	\$140,325	\$546,187	\$189,750	\$224,852

*Source: 2009-10 County Grant Applications*

# WVBE Policy 2512 – Instructional Supports for Third and Eighth Grade Students to Achieve Critical Skills 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14

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In **2010**, the WV Legislature allocated **\$6.152 Million** in funding to support critical skills intervention for students in grades three and eight. The funding was distributed to counties in three increments, with the first being December 1, 2010; the second, January 15, 2011; and the final distribution, April 15, 2011. *Table 2* reflects the expenditure of grant funds as approved in the 2010-11 grant applications.

**Table 2: 2010-11 Expenditure of Grant Funds**

<b>Expenditure of Grant Funds Used to Support Intervention 2010-2011</b>						
<b>\$6.152 Million</b>						
Personnel	Hardware	Software	Supplies	Transportation	Food	PD/Other
\$3,909,181	\$758,012	\$739,910	\$126,236	\$303,799	\$132,680	\$182,183

*Source: 2010-11 County Grant Applications*

In **2011**, the WV Legislature did not allocate specific funding to Counties for critical skills. Many Counties had carry-over funds from 2009 and 2010 still available; therefore, the WVDE revised grant awards to Counties to extend the obligation and liquidation periods for these funds to be used through July 2012. Additionally, the Legislature encouraged Counties to utilize Federal ARRA funding to support intervention for students. County Superintendents were required to provide a report to the Governor detailing the number of Intervention Personnel (FTEs) employed with ARRA funds.

In **April 2012**, the WV Legislature allocated **\$6.2 Million** in funding to support critical skills interventions for students in grades 3 and 8. Funds were distributed to Counties in four increments: July 15, 2012; October 1, 2012; January 1, 2013; and April 1, 2013. *Table 3* reflects the expenditure of grant funds as approved in the 2012-13 grant applications.

**Table 3: 2012-13 Expenditure of Grant Funds**

<b>Expenditure of Grant Funds Used to Support Intervention 2012-2013</b>							
<b>\$6.2 Million</b>							
Personnel	Hardware	Software	Transportation	Food	Professional Development	Supplies	Other
\$4,243,713	\$365,399	\$490,273	\$447,394	\$92,835	\$276,855	\$201,368	\$82,136

*Source: 2012-13 WV Districts' Critical Skills Grant Applications*

In April 2013, the WV Legislature allocated \$6.2 Million in funding for the 2013-14 academic year to support critical skills intervention in mathematics and reading for students in grades three and eight. A portion of these funds was distributed upon approval of the application. The remaining amounts will be distributed in three increments: October 1, 2013; January 1, 2014; and April 1, 2014. *Table 4* reflects the expenditures of grant funds as approved in the 2013-14 grant applications.

WVBE Policy 2512 – Instructional Supports for Third and Eighth  
Grade Students to Achieve Critical Skills  
2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14

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**Table 4: 2013-14 Expenditure of Grant Funds**

Expenditure of Grant Funds Used to Support Intervention 2013-2014 \$6.2 Million							
Personnel	Hardware	Software	Transportation	Food	Professional Development	Supplies	Other
\$3,737,595	\$540,723	\$685,531	\$557,131	\$68,739	\$384,282	\$182,690	\$43,268

*Source: 2013-14 WV Districts' Critical Skills Grant Applications*

In summary, **\$24.72 Million** has been allocated to districts since September 2009, with the intent to support efforts to improve student achievement in reading and mathematics in grades three and eight. Currently, 25 of 57 Districts have carryover funds totaling **\$1,650,263.74** included in their 2013-14 approved budgets. *Table 5* represents the amount of carryover funds available in 2013-14.

**Table 5: Carryover Funds included in 2013-14 Budgets**

COUNTY	Carryover Funds
Barbour	\$18,000.00
Berkeley	\$30,000.00
Brooke	\$5,000.00
Cabell	\$120,000.00
Calhoun	\$40,000.00
Doddridge	\$4,438.96
Fayette	\$12,529.00
Hampshire	\$58,811.14
Hardy	\$8,100.00
Harrison	\$20,298.72
Jackson	\$3,528.60
Jefferson	\$57,797.10
Kanawha	\$539,212.18
Mason	\$3,418.00
Monongalia	\$185,001.50
Monroe	\$39,076.39
Morgan	\$10,679.57
McDowell	\$29,000.00
Nicholas	\$30,000.00
Preston	\$41,146.34
Putnam	\$84,772.17
Raleigh	\$237,134.18
Roane	\$22,485.00
Wirt	\$6,900.00
Wyoming	\$42,934.89
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,650,263.74</b>

# WVBE Policy 2512 – Instructional Supports for Third and Eighth Grade Students to Achieve Critical Skills 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14

## Implementation

The WVDE Office of Instruction developed a grant application and scoring rubric and made both available electronically to Counties. The Office of Instruction staff reviewed and approved applications. Upon approval of the applications, the WVDE issued grant awards to Counties. Additionally, WVDE staff conducted webinars to explain the grant application process to County personnel responsible for the completion of the grant application. A Google Site dedicated to Chief Instructional Leaders (CILs) was established and served as the primary location for technical assistance. As per W.Va. Code §18-2E-10 and WVBE Policy 2512, a guidance document was developed and posted to this Google site. This site is currently maintained by the Office of Secondary Instruction.

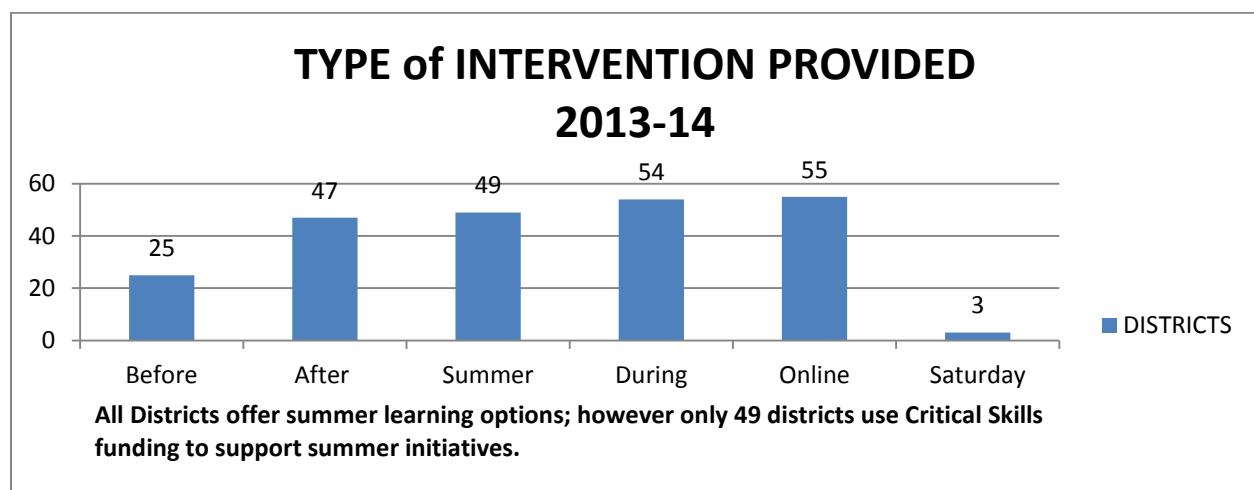
## Data Collection

The WVDE Office of Information Systems worked collaboratively with the Office of Instruction and the Office of Special Programs to develop an online data collection system for intervention documentation. Since intervention data was also a component of the Support for Personalized Learning (SPL) framework, the development of this tool required collaboration to ensure the tool met the needs of both SPL and Critical Skills intervention documentation. Therefore, districts were required to maintain local intervention documentation records until the completion of this tool in 2010-11.

With the completion of the WVEIS on the Web (WOW) Intervention Tab, districts were required to use this tool to document third and eighth grade student interventions that were supported by Critical Skills grant funds. Additionally, districts submitted progress reports indicating evidence of student achievement. Self-reported data revealed improved Lexile and Quantile measures, increased number of books read, improved student attendance, and improved Dibels scores.

## Interventions

**Chart 1: Types of Intervention Provided**

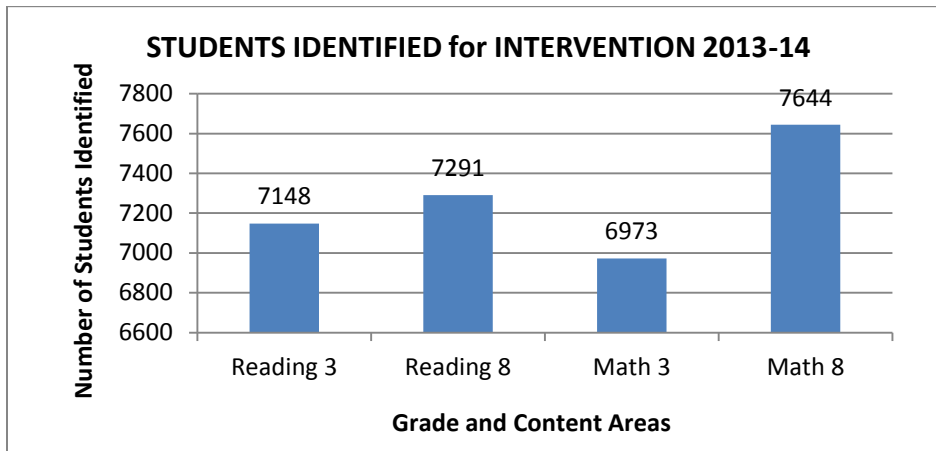


Source: 2013-14 WV Districts' Critical Skills Grant Applications

# WVBE Policy 2512 – Instructional Supports for Third and Eighth Grade Students to Achieve Critical Skills 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14

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**Chart 2: Number of Students Identified for Intervention**



Source: 2013-14 WV Districts' Critical Skills Grant Applications

## **Impact on Student Achievement**

Until the WVBE June 2012 meeting, only the following information was included in the critical skills report:

- Number of students served through intervention services
- Type of intervention
- Expenditure of grant funds
- Number of interventions provided to students

During the June 2012 WVBE meeting, a request was made for additional data regarding the impact of the funding on student achievement. As a result, the following preliminary data was provided. As a disclaimer, the following data is not the result of a research methodology study. Rather, it is trend data representative of West Virginia's student population in grades three and eight. While the results indicate an increasing trend with regard to student achievement in mathematics and reading, no direct correlation may be made to the impact of critical skills funding.

The following tables provide an overview of student achievement since the implementation of WVBE Policy 2512.

WVBE Policy 2512 – Instructional Supports for Third and Eighth  
Grade Students to Achieve Critical Skills  
2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14

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**Student Achievement Data**

<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Reading Proficiency in WV (3<sup>rd</sup> Grade by Year)</b>			
<b>2009-10</b>	<b>2010-11</b>	<b>2011-12</b>	<b>2012-13</b>
44.83%	46.16%	49.63%	44.50%
The percentage of 3 <sup>rd</sup> grade students proficient in Reading in WV has <b>decreased 0.33%</b> from 2009-10 to 2012-13.			
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Math Proficiency in WV (3<sup>rd</sup> Grade by Year)</b>			
<b>2009-10</b>	<b>2010-11</b>	<b>2011-12</b>	<b>2012-13</b>
44.78%	41.16%	49.01%	42.23%
The percentage of 3 <sup>rd</sup> grade students proficient in Mathematics in WV has <b>decreased 2.55%</b> from 2009-10 to 2012-13.			
<b>8<sup>th</sup> Grade Reading Proficiency in WV (8<sup>th</sup> Grade by Year)</b>			
<b>2009-10</b>	<b>2010-11</b>	<b>2011-12</b>	<b>2012-13</b>
42.24%	48.90%	47.81%	50.68%
The percentage of 8 <sup>th</sup> grade students proficient in Reading in WV has <b>increased 8.44%</b> from 2009-10 to 2012-13.			
<b>8<sup>th</sup> Grade Mathematics Proficiency in WV (8<sup>th</sup> Grade by Year)</b>			
<b>2009-10</b>	<b>2010-11</b>	<b>2011-12</b>	<b>2012-13</b>
37.74%	40.95%	42.11%	43.70%
The percentage of 8 <sup>th</sup> grade students proficient in Mathematics in WV has <b>increased 5.96%</b> from 2009-10 to 2012-13.			

Source: 2010-2013 WESTEST 2 Data (All Subgroup)

<b>READING PROFICIENCY Trend Data by 'Cohort'*</b>				
Students enrolled in <b>Grade 3</b> in 2009-10, <b>Grade 4</b> in 2010-11, <b>Grade 5</b> in 2011-12 and <b>Grade 6</b> in 2012-13				
<b>2009-10</b>	<b>2010-11</b>	<b>2011-12</b>	<b>2012-13</b>	<b>GROWTH/DECLINE</b>
<b>Grade 3</b>	<b>Grade 4</b>	<b>Grade 5</b>	<b>Grade 6</b>	
44.83%	48.10%	50.87%	52.80%	<b>+7.97%</b>
Data reflects an <b>increasing</b> trend in Reading proficiency in Grade 3 (2009-10), Grade 4 (2010-11), Grade 5 (2011-12) and Grade 6 (2012-13).				
<b>READING PROFICIENCY Trend Data by 'Cohort'*</b>				
Students enrolled in <b>Grade 8</b> in 2009-10, <b>Grade 9</b> in 2010-11, <b>Grade 10</b> in 2011-12 and <b>Grade 11</b> in 2012-13				
<b>2009-10</b>	<b>2010-11</b>	<b>2011-12</b>	<b>2012-13</b>	<b>GROWTH/DECLINE</b>
<b>Grade 8</b>	<b>Grade 9</b>	<b>Grade 10</b>	<b>Grade 11</b>	
42.24%	46.62%	48.34%	47.27%	<b>+ 5.03%</b>
Data reflects an <b>increasing</b> trend in Reading proficiency in Grade 8 (2009-10), Grade 9 (2010-11), Grade 10 (2011-12) and Grade 11 (2012-13).				

WVBE Policy 2512 – Instructional Supports for Third and Eighth  
Grade Students to Achieve Critical Skills  
2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14

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<b>MATH PROFICIENCY</b>				
<b>Trend Data by 'Cohort'*</b>				
<i>Students enrolled in Grade 3 in 2009-10, Grade 4 in 2010-11, Grade 5 in 2011-12 and Grade 6 in 2012-13</i>				
2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	<b>GROWTH/DECLINE</b>
Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6	
44.77%	46.21%	50.22%	48.03%	<b>+ 3.26%</b>
Data reflects an <b>increasing</b> trend in Mathematics proficiency in Grade 3 (2009-10), Grade 4 (2010-11), Grade 5 (2011-12) and Grade 6 (2012-13).				
<b>MATH PROFICIENCY</b>				
<b>Trend Data by 'Cohort'*</b>				
<i>Students enrolled in Grade 8 in 2009-10, Grade 9 in 2010-11, Grade 10 in 2011-12 and Grade 11 in 2012-13</i>				
2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	<b>GROWTH/DECLINE</b>
Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	
37.73%	38.76%	43.04%	44.91%	<b>+ 7.18%</b>
Data reflects an <b>increasing</b> trend in Mathematics proficiency in Grade 8 (2009-10), Grade 9 (2010-11), Grade 10 (2011-12) and Grade 11 (2012-13).				

Source: 2010-2013 WESTEST 2 Data (All Subgroup)

\*Cohorts are defined as the 'All Student' Subgroup on WESTEST 2 over a period of four years.

For additional information regarding WVBE Policy 2512, please contact Dr. Monica Beane [mbeane@access.k12.wv.us](mailto:mbeane@access.k12.wv.us).