

Snyder ISD Early Literacy & Dyslexia Screening

Kindergarten–Grade 2 | 2026–2027

Why Are We Screening Students?

Texas law requires school districts to assess young students in foundational reading skills and to universally screen students in **Kindergarten and Grade 1 for risk of dyslexia**. The purpose of these requirements is early identification—finding students who may need additional reading support as early as possible so instruction and intervention can begin before reading difficulties become more significant.

Early literacy screening provides teachers with information about skills such as phonological awareness, letter-sound knowledge, decoding, word reading, and reading fluency. Screening does **not diagnose dyslexia**; it helps identify students who may need additional support or further evaluation.

Texas Requirements for 2026–2027

Kindergarten

- Texas requires a Commissioner-approved Kindergarten reading readiness instrument.
- For 2026–2027, districts must use **mCLASS Texas Edition or Circle Kindergarten Progress Monitoring** to meet the Kindergarten reading readiness requirement.
- Snyder ISD will use **mCLASS** to meet this state requirement.
- All Kindergarten students must also receive a universal dyslexia screening by the end of the school year.

Grade 1

- All Grade 1 students must receive a universal dyslexia screening no later than **January 31**.



- The screening must measure the required dyslexia screening skills, including word-reading accuracy/fluency and phonological awareness.
- Texas allows school systems flexibility in selecting an appropriate screening instrument as long as it meets the criteria established in the Texas Dyslexia Handbook.

Grade 2

- A universal dyslexia screening is **not required for every Grade 2 student** under TEC §38.003.
- Grade 2 students continue to participate in required early literacy assessment and monitoring.
- For Grades 1 and 2, TEA allows a school district to select an **alternate reading instrument through its district-level committee** in accordance with TEA guidelines.

Snyder ISD Recommendation: NWEA MAP Reading Fluency

Snyder Primary teachers have requested the use of **NWEA MAP Reading Fluency for Grades 1–2** rather than administering multiple reading assessment platforms.

Using MAP Reading Fluency provides an opportunity to:

- Reduce duplicate testing for students.
- Give teachers consistent literacy data within a platform they use and understand.
- Identify students who may be at risk for reading difficulties.
- Monitor student growth throughout the year.
- Use results to guide Tier 1 instruction, intervention, MTSS, and progress monitoring.
- Provide teachers with actionable information to respond to student needs.

Kindergarten will continue to use mCLASS because Texas specifically requires districts to use one of the Commissioner-approved Kindergarten reading readiness instruments for 2026–2027.



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Legislative Requirements

Texas Education Code §38.003 – Dyslexia Screening

Requires universal dyslexia screening for students in Kindergarten and Grade 1. Kindergarten students must be screened by the end of the school year, and Grade 1 screening must be completed no later than January 31.

House Bill 2 – 89th Texas Legislature

HB 2 established new requirements for foundational literacy and numeracy assessments in Kindergarten through Grade 3. For 2026–2027, TEA extended the current K–2 reading assessment requirements while the state transitions to the new K–3 system. Beginning in 2027–2028, Commissioner-approved foundational literacy and numeracy instruments will be administered in Kindergarten through Grade 3.

Senate Bill 12 – 89th Texas Legislature

SB 12 strengthened parental rights and consent requirements in Texas public schools. The district will continue to ensure that assessment and screening practices comply with all applicable state requirements related to parental notification, consent, student information, and required educational assessments.

Our Goal

Screen early. Identify needs early. Respond early.

The goal is not simply to meet a testing requirement. Snyder ISD wants teachers to have meaningful information they can use immediately to strengthen Tier 1 reading instruction, identify students needing additional support, and ensure every student develops a strong foundation in literacy.