



Hastings Middle School

1000 WEST 11TH STREET
HASTINGS, MN 55033-2597
PHONE (651) 480-7060
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<http://ms.hastings.k12.mn.us>

BRIDGE TO SUCCESS

Steve Kovach, Principal
Josef Haas, Assistant Principal
Mindy Tavernier, Assistant Principal

August 31, 2020

Dear Families;

Your child currently has Reading Lab as a part of his/her schedule. The criteria used to determine eligibility for Reading Lab include scores from NWEA Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) testing, the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment (MCA), and the Fountas and Pinnell Benchmark Assessment System (BAS). Our team also includes Fluency assessments and teacher input to make these decisions. The whole picture of the student is considered before placement is made in Reading Lab. Typically these scores are shared with students after testing and with families during conferences.

Reading Lab is supported by a grant through the Minnesota Department of Education. As a result, a parent letter is required for all students. It needs to be signed and returned. The letter, on the following page, explains the expectations for Reading Lab and asks for your contact preferences. Please print, sign and return the letter to school or scan, sign and return it digitally to the email below. If you have more than one child in Reading Lab, each one needs a letter on file. **If your child was in Reading Lab last year, you do NOT need to complete another parent letter.**

Reading Lab this year is very different than it has been in the past. The same number of students have been identified. However, the changes with the Hybrid Schedule created challenges with the amount of time available to work with students. This year Reading Lab is not one of the students' scheduled classes, but a pull out/online support.

Our plan for September is to assess all students that have Reading Lab on their current schedule. Based on this information, along with last year's available reading scores, some students may exit Reading Lab at this point. With other students, small groups will be established for the first round of a six week Hybrid plan starting in October. Those not in the current Hybrid plan, will continue to have Reading Lab with resources and activities through Schoology online. Assessments will be completed again after the six week period for the next round of students.

At any time, please feel free to contact me with any questions, comments or concerns. Below is my contact information. Please use the format that works best for you.

Email: cjakel@hastingsapps.org or cjakel@hastings.k12.mn.us

Classroom #: 651-480-7090

Google Voice #: 651-829-9866 (talk & text options)

Thank you for your patience, understanding and flexibility as we work together to help your child succeed!

Sincerely,

Cyndi

Cyndi Jakel
Reading Specialist
Hastings Middle School - Room 113

National School of Excellence

COUNSELORS: Megan Latch - 5th

Ellen Rademacher - 6th

Charlie Black - 7th

Brooke Johnson - 8th



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Dear Parent/Guardian,

Based on a variety of test scores (NWEA/MAP and MCA) we see that your student has some growth to make in the area of reading. As part of his/ her school schedule, your student will be participating in Reading Lab with dedicated staff and resources. Our goal is to design support to fit your student's individual needs, to continue to learn what is most successful for your student, and to adjust as necessary.

In Reading Lab, students may be interacting in small groups with high interest level appropriate text and/or completing activities and work online to support reading skills. Throughout the year, our staff will be collecting information that will shape the best programming for your student. It is a team effort to make sure that your student is successful and your support is integral.

You can expect that our Reading Intervention teachers will:

- Work to help your child grow in the area of reading comprehension,
- Collaborate with other classroom teachers to help your child be successful outside of this class,
- Communicate with you about your child's areas of strength and opportunities for growth,
- Guide you in options for at-home activities to support your child's continued growth.

Students should commit to:

- Putting in their best effort in each class session and/or working online,
- Bring necessary materials to each class,
- Practice reading strategies in each of their classes.

We request that parents:

- Support the goals of the program,
- Encourage your student to read at home, and ask questions about what they're reading
- Check in with the Reading Intervention teachers with questions.

I give permission for my child to participate in this program and will do my best to support him/ her in making growth in reading comprehension.

Child's Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

My preferred method of communication (circle one): email phone

Email address: _____

Phone number: _____

National School of Excellence

COUNSELORS: Megan Latch - 5th Ellen Rademacher - 6th Charlie Black - 7th Brooke Johnson - 8th