

# POMPTON LAKES SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT



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## **The DIBELS-8:**

An overview of early identification and monitoring strategies used by elementary reading teachers in the Pompton Lakes Elementary Schools

# WHAT ARE THE DIBELS?

- The Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS) are a series of early literacy measures that are compiled to determine a child's risk profile for reading difficulties or indicators of dyslexia (CTL: University of Oregon, 2022).
- Lincoln and Lenox Elementary schools adopted this set of assessments as a Universal Screener in September 2022.

**Table F.1. DIBELS 8 Measures Available by Grade**

Grade	LNF	PSF	NWF	WRF	ORF	Maze
K	X	X	X	X		
1	X	X	X	X	X	
2			X	X	X	X
3			X	X	X	X
4					X	X
5					X	X
6					X	X
7					X	X
8					X	X

Center on Teaching and Learning. (n.d.). DIBELS®. What is DIBELS? | DIBELS®. Retrieved December 11, 2022, from <https://dibels.uoregon.edu/about-dibels>

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**UNIVERSAL SCREENING  
& BENCHMARKING  
K-5**

**BEGINNING**

**MIDDLE**

**END**

Here, we can see how the child is progressing on grade-level standards.  
The DIBELS tests become sequentially more difficult...

# THREE USES FOR THE DIBELS

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## Identifying for Support (TSS)

The DIBELS Universal Screener our district's biggest indicator that a child needs more support.

## Progress Monitoring

When a child receives additional support, their progress must be closely monitored to ensure the interventions are working.

## Screening for Dyslexia

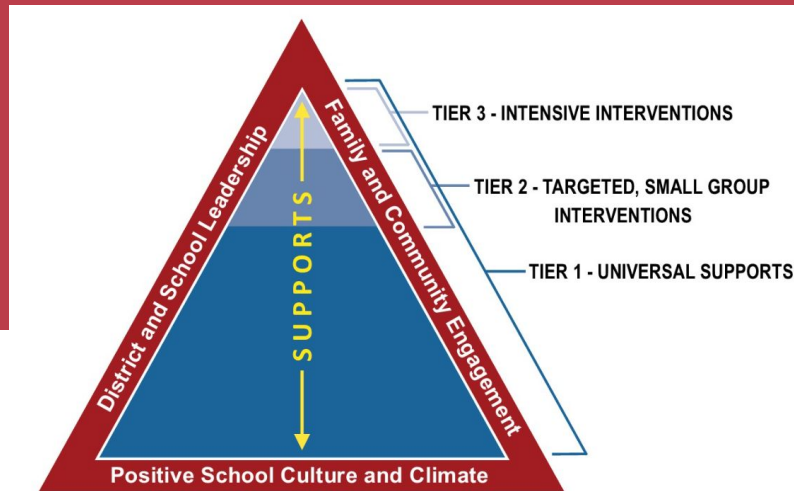
The DIBELS serves as an approved Dyslexia screener in New Jersey because it tests:

- Phonological Awareness
- Rapid Automatized Naming
- Alphabetic Principle
- Word Reading

(Biancarosa, et al., 2019, Ives, C., et al., 2019)

# TIERED SYSTEMS OF SUPPORTS (TSS)

- If a child's DIBELS score places them into the "Intensive Support" category, they will receive TSS in Reading.
  - Intervention & Enrichment Period: Pull-out structured literacy lessons
  - Cardinal Academy



New Jersey Tiered System of Supports (n.d.). New Jersey Tiered System of Supports Implementation Guidelines. Retrieved from <https://www.nj.gov/education/njtss/>

# INTERVENTION & ENRICHMENT PERIOD

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## K-5

**Each grade level has a different period.**

Specialists can service every grade level every day.

**Each period is 40 minutes long.**

**These daily 40 minutes can be used for:**

- Pull out instruction
- Push in, small group instruction
- Gifted & Talented
- ESL support
- Academic support (IEP)

**The skills addressed during *intervention* times come from deficits in the child's DIBELS score.**

# CARDINAL ACADEMY

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## K-8

Any student invited to Cardinal Academy (for reading) is a Tier 3 student in reading.

The skills addressed during *intervention* times come from deficits in the child's DIBELS score.



# How Do We Know That These Interventions Are Working?

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Reading Specialists, Cardinal Academy Teachers and classroom teachers use the DIBELS for progress monitoring with select students.

- “Progress monitoring, which involves regularly assessing student performance through brief assessments, is used to determine students' rate of improvement or response to intervention and to evaluate the effectiveness of instruction” (NJTSS).

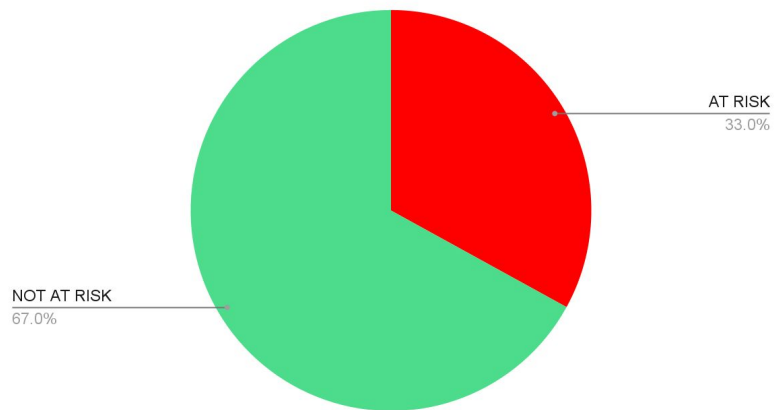
*How the student performs on these assessments is considered their “Response to Intervention”*

# SECOND GRADERS' SCORE COMPARISON

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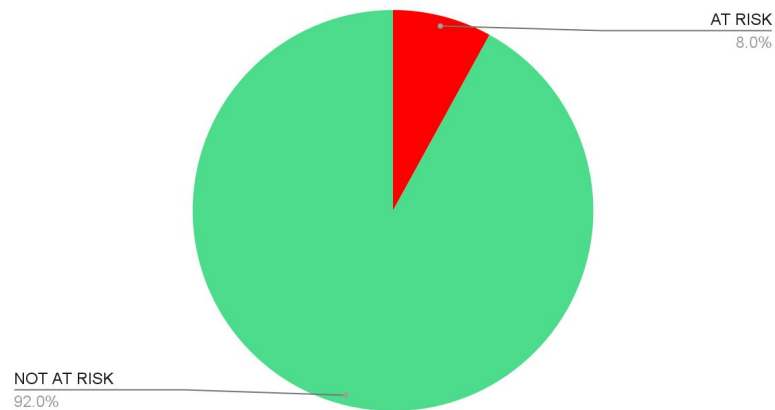
## LINCOLN SEPTEMBER WORD READING SCORES

SECOND GRADERS' RISK INDEX



## LINCOLN JANUARY WORD READING SCORES

SECOND GRADERS' RISK INDEX





## WHAT HAPPENS TO THE STUDENTS WHO REMAIN AT RISK?

When the child's RTI does not improve with multiple forms of intervention, the child may be brought to the I&RS committee.

This team of professionals will determine if a comprehensive evaluation is needed.

New Jersey Tiered System of Supports (n.d.). New Jersey Tiered System of Supports Intervention and Referral Services. Retrieved from <https://www.nj.gov/education/njtss/resources/irs/index.shtml>

# GOING FORWARD...

- Adopting the DIBELS as a Universal Screener has allowed us to identify the students who are most at risk.
- We are now able to accurately monitor their progress and see if they need more support.

*Next year, we are adopting mCLASS a digital platform that organizes students' DIBELS scores and makes recommendations for what interventions students need. We will continue to evaluate the effectiveness of these assessments, and continue to monitor student progress using the individual progress monitoring assessments.*

*In February, we're adopting Learning Ally, which is a form of assistive technology that will offer a variety of human-read audiobooks. Learning Ally can highlight the text as it's read aloud.*



# THANK YOU

## References

Biancarosa, G., et al., (2019). DIBELS Administration and Scoring Guide. 8th Edition. Eugene, Oregon: University of Oregon.

Center on Teaching and Learning. (n.d.). DIBELS®. What is DIBELS? | DIBELS®. Retrieved December 11, 2022, from <https://dibels.uoregon.edu/about-dibels>.

Ives, C., et al., (2019). Dyslexia Screening and DIBELS 8th Edition. Eugene, Oregon: University of Oregon.

New Jersey Tiered System of Supports (n.d.). New Jersey Tiered System of Supports Implementation Guidelines. Retrieved from <https://www.nj.gov/education/njtss/>.

New Jersey Tiered System of Supports (n.d.). New Jersey Tiered System of Supports Intervention and Referral Services. Retrieved from <https://www.nj.gov/education/njtss/resources/irs/index.shtml/>.

The Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey. (2014). New Jersey Chapter 210. Retrieved December 11, 2022, from <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1IR2F0XXsCWQqsbOEvKefTbgGsl9Jirk2?usp=sharing>.