


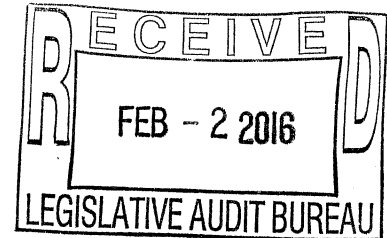


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Governor Scott Walker
Secretary Eloise Anderson

Secretary's Office

DATE: February 1, 2016
TO: Jeffrey Renk, Senate Chief Clerk
Patrick E. Fuller, Assembly Chief Clerk
FROM: Eloise Anderson, Secretary 
RE: 2015 Annual Read to Lead Development Council Operations Report

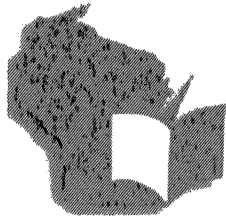


S. 48.53 (2) of the Wisconsin Statutes requires the Read to Lead Development Council to report annually to the appropriate standing committees of the legislature on its operations. This report is being provided for your information only. No action is required.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions. The report is attached for your consideration.

Attachments: 2015 Annual Read to Lead Development Council Operations Report

CC: Governor Scott Walker
Senator Luther Olsen, Senate Committee on Education Chairman
Representative Jeremy Thiesfeldt, Assembly Committee on Education Chairman
Senator Chris Larson, 7th Senate District
Representative Sody Pope, 80th Assembly District
Barb Novak, Department of Public Instruction Designee



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Read To Lead

2015 Annual Operations Report

The Read to Lead Development Council met a total of three times in 2015. The dates and topics covered include:

1. January 30, 2015
 - The Council reviewed and discussed the six-month status reports submitted by the first round of grant recipients; the use of funds from the State Farm® grant provided to the Read to Lead Development Council; and, the revised scoring process to be used for the second round of grant applications.
2. March 13, 2015
 - In the second meeting, the Council identified six of the 126 applications submitted to be considered by the Governor and State Superintendent Evers (Table 1). The Council also discussed the proposed transfer to the Department of Children and Families (DCF) in the Governor's Biennial Budget.
3. October 22, 2015
 - This was the first Council meeting after transferring to DCF. The Council discussed the one-year progress reports submitted by the first round of grant recipients and shared their vision of how the Council should move forward.

On May 27, 2015, Governor Walker and State Superintendent Evers announced the six recipients of the Read to Lead Development Fund grants.

The Legislative Audit Bureau (LAB) released the third annual report on October 21, 2015. The report recommended that DCF work with the Read to Lead Development Council to include information on the Council's plans for awarding grants in the future and for raising private funds in its next annual report; and, to submit a copy of the report to the Joint Legislative Audit Committee by February 1, 2016.

The LAB report indicates the fund balance was \$283,303 at the end of FY 2014-15. However, \$173,895 is committed to expenditures incurred in FY 2015-16 as grant award recipients seek reimbursement for grant-related costs. After consideration of the committed funds, the available fund balance was \$109,408 (Table 2). The 2015-17 biennial budget provides the base \$23,600 annual appropriation and the Fund has not received any donations that could be utilized for grant awards since its inception.

As identified in Budget Paper #340, submitted to the Joint Committee on Finance on May 5, 2015, the Council faces a series of restrictions that limit the ability of the Council and its members to solicit donations; while current state ethics and lobbying laws also prohibit state officials from soliciting contributions.

At the October 22, 2015 Read to Lead Development Council meeting, members decided to indefinitely postpone awarding additional grants and requested that the Secretary identify how the Council can contribute to DCF in a meaningful way.

Table 1
2015 Grants Awarded

	Grant Recipient	Location	Amount Awarded
1	Children's Dyslexia Center of Upper Wisconsin	Eau Claire	\$30,000
2	Kettle Moraine Correction Institution	Plymouth	\$3,000
3	St. Catherine School	Milwaukee	\$19,000
4	Marquette University	Milwaukee	\$20,000
5	Northern Waters Literacy	St. Croix Falls	\$30,000
6	Sparta Area School District	Sparta	\$30,000
			TOTAL: \$132,000

Table 2
Read to Lead Development Fund Activity
 FY 2014-15

	Amount
Beginning Fund Balance	\$400,796
Interest Earnings	363
Expenditures	(117,856)
Ending Fund Balance	283,303
Committed Fund Balance	(173,895)
Available Fund Balance	\$109,408

Read to Lead Development Council Members:

Secretary Eloise Anderson, Department of Children and Families

Barbara Novak, Designee of State Superintendent Tony Evers

Senator Luther Olsen, Chair, Senate Committee on Education

Representative Jeremy Thiesfeldt, Chair, Assembly Committee on Education

Senator Chris Larson, Ranking Minority Member, Senate Committee on Education

Representative Sondy Pope, Ranking Minority Member, Assembly Committee on Education

Donna Hejtmanek, Reading Specialist at Northland Pines School District in Eagle River, WI

Jill Riley, Administrator at the University of Wisconsin – Madison Preschool Lab

Henry Tyson, Superintendent, St. Marcus School in Milwaukee, WI

Steven Sorenson, Attorney at Davis & Kuelthau, S.C.

Jeff Roepsch, Advanced Solutions at Johnson Controls

Kathryn Champeau, Wisconsin State Reading Association

Steven Dykstra, Associate Director, Mobile Urgent Treatment Team at Milwaukee County Behavioral Health Division

Michele Erikson, Executive Director of Wisconsin Literacy, Inc.

Ann Hardginski, Youth Services Librarian at Kimberly-Little Chute Public Library

Pamela Heyde, WI Branch of the International Dyslexia Association Representative

Rachel Lander, Associate Scientist at the School of Education at UW-Milwaukee

Janis Serak, Executive Co-Director at WI FACETS