

Alicia Walden

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**From:** Clayton Barden [clayton.barden@lcps.org]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 1, 2023 5:21 AM  
**To:** ALL PRINCIPALS [principals@lcps.org]  
**Subject:** New Curriculum Policy  
**Attachments:**

Principals,

I am emailing today regarding the new district literacy curriculum, Clever Minds. During conversations and school visits, I am being made aware of a level of resistance to this new curriculum. It has been seven years since we adopted new literacy curriculum in the district, and we are most certainly overdue for a change as our literacy scores have been stagnant in recent years. Change is hard - I realize that – but this change to Clever Minds is a **non-negotiable**. We will proceed with full implementation of this curriculum and expect to see it used with fidelity across all classrooms. As a reminder from our recent principals' meeting:

1. The Board approved adoption of this curriculum and district policy states that approved curriculum is the only curriculum to be used in schools.
2. Our literacy scores dictate that inaction is unacceptable. This shift in curriculum is the action we are taking to make a difference across the district.
3. Teachers who do not implement the curriculum will face disciplinary action including, up to, termination.

This is the path forward in our district. I expect you all to be positive spokespeople for this change to help with implementation.

Clayton

Clayton Barden, Ed.D.  
Director of Curriculum  
Lawrence County Public Schools