MICHIGAN Department of Education

FY26 Section 31a

Annual District Transparency Report

White Cloud Public Schools

1. What was the total amount of the district's Section 31a allocation for the 2025-26 school year?

White Cloud Public Schools total amounf of Section 31a allocation for the 2025-26 year was $1,485,213.68.

2. Describe the district's methodology and decision-making for distributing Section 31a At-risk grant funds to target the buildings with the highest needs.

The district determines the distribution of Section 31a At-Risk grant funds through a data-driven needs assessment designed to identify and prioritize buildings with the highest amount of student need. We evaluate both the number of students qualifying under the ten state-defined "At-Risk" criteria—such as economic disadvantage, chronic absenteeism, and English learner status—and localized academic deficits in K-3 reading and 8th-grade mathematics. By analyzing state accountability data alongside local benchmarking assessments, the district leadership can categorize schools or grade levels and prioritize funding for intensive, evidence-based interventions like dedicated literacy coaches, behavior interventionists, and direct multi-tiered system of supports (MTSS) personnel.

The decision-making process is governed by a leadership committee, which includes the Superintendent, Business Manager, MTSS Director, and building principals—to ensure fiscal accountability and alignment with the District Improvement Plan. This committee reviews building-specific data and intervention proposals, enforcing strict internal controls to guarantee that Section 31a funds strictly supplement, rather than supplant, general fund expenditures. Before any grant dollars are deployed, the business office verifies that it is an allowable At-Risk funding expense. If a specific intervention fails to yield measurable progress, the committee reallocates those resources to alternative evidence-based strategies to ensure funds remain dynamically targeted where they will have the greatest impact on student success.

3. What evidence-based interventions and services were implemented with the Section 31a At-risk grant funds during the 2025-26 grant cycle?

During the 2025–26 grant cycle, the district utilized Section 31a At-Risk funds to target academic and behavioral evidence-based interventions linked to our MTSS framework. To accelerate academic growth and graduation rates, funds supported after-school tutors and summer school teachers for core remediation, paraprofessional support for Tier 2 classroom interventions, and structured Credit Recovery alongside a Virtual

School Program for at-risk high school junior high students. Oversight of these programs, data tracking, and intervention fidelity was coordinated by the MTSS Director.

To remove social-emotional and behavioral barriers to learning, the grant funded a comprehensive student support team, including social workers and counselors providing mental health and crisis support, and a Student Services Coordinator tracking chronic absenteeism and community outreach. Additionally, Behavioral Interventionists, dean of students implemented positive behavioral supports (PBIS) in high-needs buildings, while a School Resource Officer (SRO) was funded to mentor at-risk youth, improve school climate, and assist with early truancy interventions. Together, these roles provided a holistic network of support for our most vulnerable students.

4. In what ways has the district collected feedback from parents or legal guardians on these interventions and services provided this year?

To evaluate the impact of these interventions, the district collected feedback from parents and legal guardians through multiple formal and informal channels. Key avenues included stakeholder comment windows during regular public board meetings and the annual budget hearing, where community members shared perspectives on resource allocation. Additionally, the district engaged families through direct communication, such as parent-teacher conferences.

Moving forward, the district is actively planning to enhance and expand opportunities for parents and guardians to share their opinions, whether positive or constructive. Future initiatives include launching feedback surveys, and establishing building-level parent advisory committees. These improvements aim to lower barriers to communication and ensure that diverse family perspectives directly shape our MTSS and Section 31a programming decisions.

5. Describe the method parents or legal guardians may use to provide feedback on the use of these funds.

Parents and legal guardians can provide feedback on the distribution and effectiveness of Section 31a At-Risk funds through several established district avenues. Families are invited to voice their opinions or ask questions during designated public comment periods at regular public board meetings, as well as during the annual budget hearings where funding allocations are officially presented. Additionally, the district welcomes direct parent communication, encouraging guardians to share their insights, success stories, or concerns directly with the superintendent, building principals, teachers, or the MTSS Director via email, phone calls, or during scheduled parent-teacher conferences.

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To ensure all families have a voice, the district is currently designing simpler, more streamlined processes to gather this feedback moving forward. Recognizing that attending formal evening meetings or navigating administrative channels can be challenging, future adjustments will include introducing a brief, mobile-friendly digital surveys. These simplified pathways are intended to break down communication barriers and make it easier for parents and guardians to share their honest feedback—both positive and constructive—to help shape future student interventions.

For more information about Section 31a interventions and services available for your child(ren) contact: Ed Canning-Superintendent

To provide feedback or for more information on the use of Section 31a funding for the 2025-26 school year contact: Please contact White Cloud Public Schools Superintendnet, Ed Canning, at 231-689-6591

For additional questions regarding the Section 31a At-risk grant contact: White Cloud Public Schools at 231-689-6591