



Extraordinary Educational
Experiences

North Kansas City Schools

Northview

Elementary School

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Dear Northview Parents,

Northview has two wonderful reading teachers, Mrs. Johnson and Mrs. Wilks, who support **all students** in a variety of ways. They serve all students ***indirectly*** by supporting classroom teachers by gathering quality reading materials, developing assessment plans, collaborating with teachers, collecting and sharing data, researching and sharing instructional strategies, and so much more. These contributions enhance our instructional efforts and programming for **all** Northview children.

Mrs. Johnson and Mrs. Wilks also provide ***direct*** services for selected Northview students. This comes in many forms such as working with students individually, in small groups, or even co-teaching an entire class. They may pull students out of their class for a few minutes or step into the classrooms for a larger block of time. They may meet with a student a few times or determine that long-term intervention is necessary.

As with any valuable resource, Mrs. Johnson and Mrs. Wilks are in high demand. Our priority and philosophy for utilizing them in the most beneficial way is to continue their indirect support for all students and to assess the current reading performance of every student at Northview on an ongoing basis to determine those that need their direct support the most. Realistically, this list changes and we need to be aware of those changes.

In a nutshell, instead of “qualifying” a few students in the fall to receive and continue to receive one type of service model from Mrs. Johnson or Mrs. Wilks throughout the year, Northview will work hard to continually assess all students and determine if service changes need to be made. For example, a child who does not warrant reading support in September may start to slide and need the help in December and we do not want them to miss out on that opportunity for support. Likewise, a student who needed intensive support in September may make great strides and be better served in the classroom with his/her classmates by January. We want to make sure those opportunities for change happen for our students.

Reading support with Mrs. Johnson or Mrs. Wilks is not the same as special education or determining a reading disability. We all need a little boost at various times throughout our lifelong learning journey. All children may talk about “the reading teacher” and are likely to become familiar with Ms. Johnson and Mrs. Wilks at some point in their Northview career. All students are learning to be better readers every day and Ms. Johnson and Mrs. Wilks are working with all classroom teachers and their students to assist with that endeavor.

If your child has a reading deficit, your classroom teacher will communicate their needs and support plans with you, which may or may not include direct support from Mrs. Johnson or Mrs. Wilks. If it is determined that the reading teachers will pull your child out of class for direct support for an extended period of time, an additional letter will be sent home with them at that time.

As always, we encourage you to contact your child’s classroom teacher with any questions you may have regarding their progress. You may also contact Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Wilks, or myself with any specific questions about reading services. We value our partnership with you.

Working together,

Dr. Rich

Principal