

## **Citywide Coordinated Learning for Academic and Social Success (CLASS) Program**

This citywide special education program serves Minneapolis Public Schools (MPS) students from kindergarten to grade eight with significant educational needs related to significant learning and social emotional needs. Individuals appropriate for this specialized citywide program are those who require a higher level of special education services than can be provided in the student's community or home school.

### **Characteristics of Students:**

Typically, the students served in these programs have special education disability designations of Students Needing Alternative Programming (SNAP), Specific Learning Disabilities (SLD) or Mild Developmental Cognitive Disability (Mild DCD). Some students may also have behavior needs in addition to their primary academic disabilities. Generally, students are significantly discrepant from grade level peers. For young children, their skills may be at a readiness level; for intermediate aged students, their skills may be two to three years delayed. They may also have deficits in social and functional skills and some students have significant language needs.

### **Program Description:**

The CLASS programs are tailored to meet individual needs and generally include a focus on basic academic skills. Some students may also have language, social skills or behavioral goal areas on their Individual Education Program (IEP). Student IEP goals are typically worked on in small group individualized instruction. Students may need assistance in improving their social and problem-solving skills. Students receive intensive academic intervention, which includes research-based approaches in reading, math, written expression and/or language. Progress toward goals is monitored frequently.

Two examples of reading interventions used in the this program include:

**System 44** is a foundational reading program designed to get the most challenged readers in Grades 3-12+ on the path to college and career. A personalized learning progression with explicit instruction engage students in reading, writing, language, speaking and listening. It is used daily with small class sizes. Students use the software daily and rotate between Small-Group Differentiated Instruction and modeled and independent reading.

**READ 180** is a comprehensive system of curriculum, instruction and assessment designed for struggling readers in Grades 4-12+. It is intended to move students reading two or more years below grade level towards independence with rigorous, grade level text. READ 180 leverages adaptive technology to individualize instruction for students and provide data for differentiation.