

**550 E Cummings Street  
Lake Alfred, FL 33850**

**Office: 863-295-5985**

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**Lake Alfred Elementary**

**Matt Burkett  
Principal**

**Faye Wilson  
Assistant Principal**

July 6, 2017

Dear Mr. Carlo Franzblau

I want to emphatically thank you for the opportunity for our students to use Tune into Reading (TIR). We received the program in February just before the testing season but with very limited time to provide a final push for students. I handpicked ten students in grades 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> who were in our bottom 25%. Even more troubling, these students were not making any gains on all of our progress monitoring data. In fact, most were going backwards, completely unmotivated and unengaged. Furthermore, they were already in all of our other extra support efforts.

To my great delight most of these students immediately engaged with the program, in fact they came in every morning on their own and began to sing. I was especially excited that two of my African American males really liked to sing and practice their reading. Both of these boys were completely unengaged with learning first semester, yet they sang their hearts out every morning with TIR. Their teacher informed me that their entire demeanor changed in the classroom setting as well. I personally attest to the fact that TIR can work to improve engagement in reading and ultimately increase test scores. As educators, we are always looking for ways to motivate the unmotivated, well that is exactly what TIR did with an 80% success rate.

The overall FSA data: (10 target students)

50% made a learning gain

30% made a DSS gain (just not enough to be considered a learning gain)

20% did not make a gain

With Hope For All,

A blue ink handwritten signature of Matt Burkett.

Matt Burkett

Principal- Lake Alfred Elementary

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May 30, 2018

Dear Mr. Franzblau,

I am extremely excited to share that for the second year in a row I have seen TIR assist students in scoring higher achievement on the FSA test. This year our 3<sup>rd</sup> grade is at 53% proficiency. This is a 7% increase over last year's 3<sup>rd</sup> grade score, which was 46% proficiency.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teachers placed 17 low achieving students into TIR. Each of them was in danger of not passing the FSA based on their STAR data. I am excited to share that 14 of the 17 passed the FSA. That is an incredible 82%!

Another interesting and telling data source is the fact that this group of 17 low achievers matched the school wide 3<sup>rd</sup> grade proficiency (level 3) at 53%. This data along with last year's success gives great hope for the students that enjoy your program. You have my sincerest thanks.

Kind Regards,

Matt Burkett-Principal