



North Carolina Read to Achieve

A Guide for Parents
to House Bill 950
and House Bill 230

September 2016

Winston-Salem / Forsyth County
Schools

The Goal of Read to Achieve

“The goal of the State is to ensure that every student read at or above grade level by the end of third grade and continue to progress in reading proficiency so that he or she can read, comprehend, integrate, and apply complex text when needed for secondary education and career success.”

Major Components of Read to Achieve

- A comprehensive plan to improve reading achievement
- A kindergarten entry assessment process
- K-3 reading proficiency assessments
- Retention of 3rd graders not performing on grade level by the end of 3rd grade academic year
- Reading Camp
- Transitional 3rd / 4th reading intensive classrooms

K-3 Reading Proficiency Assessments: Dibels Next

- Use short, one-minute fluency measures for foundational reading skills.
- Replace manual calculations with instant results and recommended activities.
- Compare student progress with predictive, research-based benchmark goals.
- Track progress and target instruction to individual student needs.
- Use reports to support decision-making at every level and inform parents

K-3 Reading Proficiency Assessments: Text Reading & Comprehension (TRC)

Teachers record observations with a running record and are able to quickly understand how students find meaning in text, and then assign reading levels and monitor progress to support comprehension at every level.

In 3rd grade:

- **Students will complete a Beginning-of-Year (BOG) Reading Test and an End of Year (EOG) Reading Test**
- **If they are proficient on the Reading EOG, they are promoted to 4th grade**
- **If they are not proficient, they may take a retest of the EOG or the state alternative assessment**
- **If they are proficient on the retake or alternate test, they are promoted to 4th grade**

What if my child does not pass the 3rd grade EOG?

- If third grade students are still not proficient, they may qualify for a “good cause exemption” (explained on next slide)
- If the student is non-proficient and does not qualify for a good cause exemption, the student may attend Reading Camp at no cost to the family
- At the end of Reading Camp, the student will have another opportunity to demonstrate proficiency on third grade reading standards

Good Cause Exemptions

Limited to the following by the state:

- **Students who score 439 or higher on Beginning-of-Grade 3 Reading Test (BOG)**
- **Limited English Proficient students with fewer than 2 years of instruction in ESL**
- **Students with disabilities that indicate a two year developmental delay and have reading goals on their IEP.**
- **Students who demonstrate reading proficiency on Reading 3D (Level P or higher)**
- **Students who have received reading intervention and previously been retained more than once in grades K-3**

Reading Camp

- **No cost to parents or guardians**
- **72 hours of instruction**
- **A State Alternative Assessment at the end of Reading Camp**
- **Child will be promoted to 4th grade if proficient at the end of camp**
- **Students who do not the Reading Camp, may participate in the State Assessment at the end of the Reading Camp**

What if my child is still not proficient after Camp?

3rd/4th Transition Class

- labeled as “retained in 3rd”
- a classroom designed to meet 4th grade learning standards but with intensive reading remediation
- an opportunity to remove the retained reading label mid-year by demonstrating proficiency on the State Alternative Assessment

Accelerated Reading Class

- labeled as “retained in 3rd”
- a pull out reading support class to increase a student’s reading level at least two grade levels
- an opportunity to remove the retained reading label mid-year by demonstrating proficiency on the State Alternative Assessment

What happens mid-year in the 3/4 Transition / Acceleration if my child is still not proficient?

- **Still has a third grade retained label and remains in the 3rd/4th transition/acceleration classroom for support in reading**
- **Students will take the 4th grade EOG Test**
- **If proficient, child will be placed in 5th grade and the third grade retained label is removed**
- **If not proficient, retention or promotion to fifth grade will be based on the principal's recommendation**

What can parents do to help?

READ!

- **Find some time for reading every day. Reading before bedtime is great, but any time is a good time for reading.**
- **Be sure to read books that your child enjoys. If you have selected a book, and then find you are not interested in it, stop reading it and select another one.**
- **Even 15 minutes a day will make a big difference in your child's achievement and enjoyment of reading.**
- **The more you read together, the more fun ways you will find to enjoy reading.**