

Southern Local School District

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January 25, 2021

To the parents/guardians of all Southern Local third grade students:

On October 20 and October 21 our grade three students completed the Ohio English Language Arts (ELA) Reading Assessment in order to measure each student's level of competency in the area of English Language Arts/Reading. The results of this assessment are also used to identify students who scored below the required proficiency level. A scale score of 700 and above is required for a student to be identified as proficient in the area of ELA/Reading. A scale score of 683 and above or a Reading sub score of 46 and above is required for a student to meet **Ohio's Third Grade Reading Guarantee Promotion Requirement**. A student whose Reading sub score is 46 or above or whose combined ELA/Reading scale score is 683 or above is eligible for promotion to fourth grade at the end of the school year.

By identifying students who need intervention in the area of ELA/Reading and then developing and implementing the appropriate interventions, we will give each of these students a better opportunity to achieve our ultimate goal, which is to provide each student with the knowledge, understanding, and test taking skills required to score at or above the required proficient scale score of 700 on the grade three ELA/Reading Assessment.

Enclosed is a copy of your child's official Ohio Department of Education ELA/Reading Assessment report. These results are yours to keep for your records. Please review the information below regarding the results of your child's assessment. If you have any questions about your child's assessment results or the Third Grade Reading Guarantee promotion requirement please contact me at your convenience.

_____ Your child scored at or above the required proficient scale score of 700 on the grade three ELA/Reading Assessment during the October administration and at or above the sub score of 46 on the Reading part of the test. Your child will also complete the Spring 2021 ELA/Reading Assessment in late March or early April which will give your child an opportunity to improve upon their October scores. Your child's highest score in ELA and Reading will be the scores that are reported to the ODE. Your child has met the Third Grade Reading Guarantee promotion requirement by scoring at or above 46/683.

_____ Your child scored below the required proficient scaled score of 700 on the grade three ELA/Reading Assessment during the October administration. Your child has met the Third Grade Reading Guarantee promotion requirement by scoring at or above the sub score of 46 on the Reading part of the test or having a combined scale score of 683 or above on the ELA/Reading test. Your child will also complete the Spring 2021 ELA/Reading Assessment in late March or early April. The Spring 2021 assessment will give your child an opportunity to improve upon his/her October scores. Your child's highest score in each area will be the score that will be reported to the ODE.

_____Your child scored below the Third Grade Reading Guarantee required promotion score of 46 on the Reading part of the test and below the required scale score of 683 on the combined Ohio ELA/Reading Assessment during the October administration of the test. Your child has not met the required promotion score. Your child will have another opportunity to complete the assessment in late March or early April. Please keep in mind that Ohio's Third Grade Reading Guarantee requires third grade students who score below the required promotion score of 46 on the Reading part of the test and below 683 on the combined ELA/Reading test are to be retained.

All students who scored below 46 on the Reading part of the test and below the combined score of 683 on the October test will complete the CTB McGraw Hill Terra Nova 3 Alternative Reading Assessment on Tuesday, March 9. Students will meet the promotion requirement by scoring 615 or above on the Terra Nova 3 Alternative Reading Assessment.

I realize that Ohio's Third Grade Reading Guarantee promotion requirement can be confusing to parents. There are three ways that a student can meet the Third Grade Reading Guarantee promotion requirement. They are:

- Score at or above 46 on the Reading part of the state assessment.
- Score at or above 683 on the combined ELA/Reading state assessment.
- Score at or above 615 on the Terra Nova 3 Alternative Reading assessment.

Students only need to meet one of the three score requirement levels listed above to meet Ohio's Third Grade Reading Guarantee promotion requirement regarding retention.

Special Note:

Current Ohio legislation, Section 18 of House Bill 164, states that a school shall not retain a student in third grade during the 2020-2021 school year who does not meet the promotion score of 683 or 46 on the state test or 615 on the Terra Nova 3 if the principal and Reading teacher agree that other evaluations of the student's Reading skills demonstrate the student is prepared to be promoted to fourth grade. Parents will be kept informed as the ODE provides the school with updated Third Grade Reading Guarantee information.

If you should have any questions please contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,
Larry Rudloff,
Guidance Counselor
330-679-2301 Extension 4019