

# Southern Local School District

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June 11, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians of grade three students who attend Southern Local Elementary School.

On Wednesday, June 9 your child completed the grade three Terra Nova Alternative Reading Assessment. Your child was required to complete this test as part of the Ohio Department of Education mandate regarding the (TGRG) Third Grade Reading Guarantee. The Third Grade Reading Guarantee was implemented in Ohio at the beginning of the 2012-2013 school year. With the start of the 2013-2014 school year the TGRG states that third grade students who have been identified as Not on Track in Reading and have not met the promotion requirement in Reading must repeat third grade.

To meet the TGRG promotion requirement in Reading a student must score 683 or higher on the combined ELA/Reading state test, score 46 or higher on the Reading part of the state test or score of 615 or higher on the ODE approved Terra Nova Alternative Reading Assessment. Students who do not meet one of these requirements must repeat third grade.

I am sending you a copy of your child's Terra Nova Alternative Reading Assessment results. These results are yours to keep for your records.

\_\_\_\_\_ Your child scored at or above the required ODE Scale Score of 615 on the grade three Terra Nova Alternative Reading Assessment that was completed on June 9. Your child has met the Third Grade Reading Guarantee promotion requirement and is now identified as On Track in Reading.

\_\_\_\_\_ On the October ELA/Reading state assessment your child scored below the combined scale score of 683 and below the Reading sub score of 46. On the June 9 Terra Nova Alternative Reading Assessment your child scored below the scale score of 615 that is required to be promoted to fourth grade. Under the guidelines of the Third Grade Reading Guarantee your child qualifies for a retention exemption and will be promoted to fourth grade. The retention exemption that qualifies your child to be promoted to fourth grade is based on your child's IEP which specifically exempts your child from retention under the Third Grade Reading Guarantee or the fact that your child has previously been retained in kindergarten, first, second or third grade or Ohio House Bill 409.

The temporary change in section 4 of the 133<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly impacts the promotion criteria for the Third Grade Reading Guarantee during the 2020-2021 school year to account for the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on student learning. Under this change Ohio House Bill 409 states that no school district, community school, STEM school or chartered nonpublic school shall retain a student in third grade based solely on a student's academic performance in Reading and that no child shall be retained for not meeting the promotion score of 683 or the Reading sub score of 46 on Ohio's grade three English Language Arts state test or does not meet the Terra Nova promotion score of 615 unless the principal and the student's Reading teacher agree the student is reading below grade level and is not prepared to be promoted to fourth grade.

If you have questions regarding the Third Grade Reading Guarantee requirements please contact me at your convenience. You can reach me by calling 330-679-2301, extension 4019 or by email at [larry.rudloff@omeresanet.net](mailto:larry.rudloff@omeresanet.net).

Sincerely,  
Larry Rudloff  
Guidance Counselor