



Dear Parent/Guardian,

The goal of the Read to Achieve legislation, which became law in July 2012, is to ensure that every student reads at or above grade level by the end of third grade. This law requires students who are not proficient in the third-grade reading standards after the student attempts all of the possibilities for promotion, be placed in one of three situations for the following school year. (1) Students may be retained in a third grade with an intense focus on reading. These students are instructed on third-grade standards and curriculum. (2) Students may be placed in a third/fourth transition class with a retained reading label. (3) Students may be placed in a fourth grade accelerated reading class with a retained reading label. Students in the third/fourth transition class and the fourth grade accelerated reading class are instructed on fourth-grade standards and curriculum.

Your child was placed in a third/fourth transition class with a retained reading label at the end of third grade. Students will be using System 44, Read180, or HillRap in addition to their classroom instruction to help support their reading instruction. Students in System 44 and Read180 will also take the Reading Inventory periodically throughout the year to measure their reading progress. iReady and Reading Inventory are diagnostic assessments that will inform your child's teacher of strengths and needs in reading. These are short assessments administered on the computer. Your child can use iReady Instruction at home to help support the small group reading instruction they are receiving in the classroom. You can find the link to iReady on the GCIS homepage under the "Students" tab. Your child's Student ID number is their username and their birthdate is their password (MMDDYYYY).

If your child is proficient on iReady or the Reading Inventory (Lexile of 725), the retained label will be removed, and your child will continue in the same class with fourth-grade standards and curriculum. He or she will continue to receive intensive reading instruction throughout fourth grade to support ongoing improvement in reading skills. If your child is not proficient, he or she will maintain the retained reading label and will remain in the same class with fourth-grade standards and curriculum with an intense focus on reading to move him/her to proficiency.

If you have questions or concerns about this reading requirement or the testing that will occur, please contact your child's teacher. Working together we can help our students become better readers.