



Peterson Elementary School
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Red Springs, NC 28377
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Melinda P. Sellers
Principal

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Dear Parent or Guardian,

As your child begins third grade, you will see a concentrated focus in ensuring students can read at or above grade level and are making progress in reading proficiency. The goal is to ensure all third-grade students can read, comprehend, integrate, and apply complex texts needed for academic success and to ensure all students can meet the requirements of the Read to Achieve law (G.S. §115C-83.1) passed by the General Assembly in 2012.

As part of this legislation your child will take the Beginning-of-Grade 3 (BOG3) Reading Test to establish a baseline measure of beginning third-grade reading skills. This test will be administered on **Tuesday, September 7**. Students beginning the third-grade are not expected to demonstrate third-grade reading proficiency on the BOG3 test because they have not yet received third-grade reading instruction. Following the BOG3 test administration, you will receive an individual student report with your child's score. If your child scores an achievement level 3, 4, or 5 on the BOG3 test, the score will satisfy the promotion requirements of the Read to Achieve legislation. As you review the report, make notes about your child's test score and other questions you may have. Be sure to discuss your questions with your child's teacher when you attend a parent-teacher-student conference.

In addition to the BOG3 test, your student can satisfy the requirements of the Read to Achieve law by the following additional pathways.

1. Successfully complete a student reading portfolio.
2. Pass the State Board of Education (SBE)-approved local alternative assessment.
3. Score an achievement level 3, 4, or 5 on the EOG test.
 - a. If your student is not proficient on the EOG test and has not met the Read to Achieve law through one of the previously stated pathways, he or she will have the opportunity to take the reading EOG test again as a retest, the Read to Achieve Test, or the locally-approved alternative test.
4. If your student has not satisfied the requirements of the Read to Achieve law by the end of third grade, he or she can attend a reading camp to help improve reading skills. This camp is at no charge to you. Your local school district will organize the camp and give you more information about when and where it will be held.
5. At the end of reading camp, your student may achieve reading proficiency by passing a formative, diagnostic assessment, the Read to Achieve Test, successfully completing the student reading portfolio, or by passing the locally-approved alternative test approved by the State Board of Education. Students achieving proficiency on one of these measures are eligible to be promoted to fourth grade.
6. Students who do not achieve proficiency at the end of reading camp can be retained in third grade, placed in a 3/4 transitional class with a retained reading label, or placed in a fourth-grade accelerated reading class with a retained reading label. Ninety minutes of uninterrupted reading instruction is provided daily in these classes. Students in the 3/4 transitional classes or fourth-grade accelerated classes are eligible to retake the Read to Achieve Test again by November 1 to achieve a mid-year promotion and to have the retained reading label removed. Students will remain in the same fourth-grade class for the entire school year and will continue to receive the uninterrupted reading instruction throughout fourth grade to support ongoing improvement in reading skills. Non-proficient students may continue to work on completing a portfolio or passing the local alternative test after November 1 to show proficiency by the end of the fourth-grade year and have the retained reading label removed.

If you have questions or concerns about the Read to Achieve law, please contact Mrs. Rebecca Chavis-Nolley at 910-843-4125.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Chavis-Nolley