

Alexander Elementary

Parents Make A Difference!



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A note from:
Mr. Wade
Elementary Principal

This month we will take a quick look at Senate Bill 346. Gov. Mary Fallin signed this bill (referred to as the "law to end social promotion") into law almost two years ago and is scheduled to go into effect starting with next years' third graders.

As a result, Oklahoma now requires students that entered the second grade this year to master grade-appropriate reading skills by the end of third grade in order to be promoted to the fourth grade. The mandate directs schools to identify reading deficiency's early and if necessary to retain students before they reach the third grade.

School districts are now required to notify parents that their child has a reading deficiency and that the student would be held back if the deficiency is not improved. Public schools would be required to develop a plan to work with parents to help their child read.

The law does state that no student can be held back more than twice; a student held back twice and still found to lack necessary reading skills at the end of the third grade would be promoted to the fourth grade but would receive additional reading assistance.

The bill also comes with an extensive list of measures that schools must take to get failing students back on grade level before the end of the year so they won't be held back, and a number of practices the next year to make certain they aren't held back again. Cont. Col 2

From my view, the law has good points and some that concern me. Regardless, it is something that everyone should know about. Now more than ever, it is crucial that parents and schools work together to insure all children achieve adequate academic success.

Many would agree reading is the most important subject in school. If your child is a struggling reader, it is important they get as much help as possible here at school and at home. If you feel, there is something that we can do more to help your child, please give your child's teacher a call or myself as soon as possible to discuss this matter further. If necessary, we can set up a meeting to look at a plan to insure your child's reading improves. Our number is 918-675-4336.

Parent Power

There are many ways you can support your child's learning and school. Here are a few ideas:

Spend a few minutes every evening looking over handouts your youngster brings home. Fill out forms to return the next day.

Tell your child's teachers if you can help them out at school or home.

Make sure teachers know you appreciate their efforts. From time to time, send a thank-you note or an email.

Contact your youngster's teacher immediately if you see a problem. Working together will help your child succeed.

Attend conferences, parent meetings and school events regularly.

March

Spring/Group Pictures- Friday, March 1.

Benefit Dinner and Pie Auction for Mr. Barker- Saturday, March 2 at the High School from 5:00PM to 7:00PM. More information call: 675-4343

End of Third Quarter- Friday, March 8.

GT to Greenbush- Monday, March 11.

Third Quarter Grade Cards- Tuesday, March 12.

Kindergarten to Jenks Aquarium- Thursday, March 14. L8:00AM R2:45PM

St. Patrick's Day- Sunday, March 17.

Spring Break- March 18-22

Third Quarter Accelerated Reward- Thursday, March 28.

Easter Sunday- March 31.

Fourth Grade Field Trip to Fantastic Caverns- Wednesday, April 3. L8:15 R3:00

ITBS (K, 1st and 2nd Grades) Testing Begins- Monday, April 1 and ends on April 5.

Fifth Grade Writing Test- Wednesday, April 3.

CRT (3rd, 4th and 5th Grades) Testing Begins- Wednesday, April 10 and ends on April 24.

Progress Reports Go Out- Tuesday, April 16.



Marcia Huckabee of Cotton Pickin' Quilts 918-542-2836

Amazing Quilt Up For Raffle!

We currently have a one-of-a-kind quilt up for raffle at Alexander Elementary School. Although the picture above does not do this quilt justice, we have provided a photo so you can see this amazing design. As you can see, it is covered with "Commerce Pride" being made-up of many different past Tiger T-shirts. It was beautifully produced by Marcia Huckabee of locally owned Cotton Pickin' Quilts.

Tickets can be purchased at the Alexander Elementary School office. Tickets are \$1 a piece or 6 tickets for \$5. We encourage you to stop by to purchase your tickets and view the quilt. The drawing will be held at the end of our school carnival on May 9. The carnival will run from 5:00PM to 7:00PM. You do not have to be present to win. Proceeds go to the Alexander Elementary Parent-Faculty Club.

If you have any questions, please give us a call at 918-675-4336.

*To see a color photo of the quilt go to our home page at www.commercetigers.net.



Wishing you a happy St. Patrick's Day, Spring Break and Easter!

From all of us here at Alexander Elementary School!

