

Does the 3rd Grade Reading Guarantee Apply to All Students?

Beginning with the 2013-2014 school year, all students scoring below the designated level on the 3rd Grade Reading, Ohio Achievement test must be retained, except for:

- o Limited English proficient students* who have been enrolled in U.S. schools for less than two full school years
- o Special education students* whose IEPs specifically exempt them from retention under the third grade guarantee;
- o Students who demonstrate reading competency on an alternative reading assessment* approved by ODE; and
- o Any student who has received intensive remediation for two years and was previously retained* in kindergarten through Grade 3.

What Can I Do To Help?

Read with your children and discuss what you read: Ask your child how characters are alike or different, what your child likes or dislikes about the story, and how it compares to other books your child has read. Share your own thoughts.

Let your children see you read: Read the newspaper over your morning coffee, take a magazine from the rack in a doctor's office while you wait, read a paperback instead of watching television. Children imitate what they see.

Take your child to the library and let him/her choose books to read. Book choice is a strong motivation for readers young and old. It's almost a sure thing they'll want to read them if they pick them out themselves.

Maintain open communication with your child's teacher. Ask how you can help and stay updated on your child's progress.

Trimble Local Schools

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Trimble Local
Schools

**Understanding
Ohio's
3rd Grade
Reading
Guarantee**



What is the 3rd Grade Reading Guarantee?



Ohio legislators recently passed Senate Bill 316, a mandate that has made reading more important than ever. This law states that all

students entering the third grade must demonstrate a certain level of competency in reading before advancing to the fourth grade. The Third Grade Guarantee requires all students in grades K-3 to be administered a reading diagnostic assessment by September 30, of each school year. The state determined which tests were permissible to give. Trimble's classroom teachers have already completed individualized student assessments.



What does this mean for my child?

As a result of the assessments, teachers must identify students as “On Track,” (meaning that their performance is meeting expectations for students entering the current grade level based on cut scores set by the Ohio Department of Education) or “NOT on Track” (meaning that student performance is currently below expectations based on the cut score set by the Ohio Department of Education).

Beginning with the 2013-2014 school year, this law also specifies that unless a student attains the appropriate level of reading competency by the end of Grade 3, the student will be retained (with some exceptions).



The child will officially be “Not on Track” and on a reading improvement and monitoring plan until the student either scores “On-Track” on the following year’s reading diagnostic assessment or scores “proficient” on the 3rd Grade Reading Ohio Achievement Assessment. Adjustments may need to be made to the reading improvement and monitoring plan throughout the year depending on the progress of the child.

What if my child is identified as “Not on Track”?

This new law requires Ohio school districts to develop and monitor a reading improvement plan for all students who are “not on track” according to the data collected. In the event that the data should show a reading deficiency, a written notice will be sent to parents/guardians describing their child’s reading deficiency and the reading improvement plan. **Please do not jump to the conclusion that a “Not on Track” status, based upon initial assessments on the first days of school, means that your child will not be successful in school.** At Trimble Elementary we work hard to provide good teaching and support for all students.

Where Can I Find More Information About the 3rd Grade Guarantee?

More information can be found on the Ohio Department of Education’s website at <http://www.ode.state.oh.us>
Search: Third Grade Guarantee