



Northampton County Schools

Office of Federal Programs and K-8 Education
701 North Church Street, Jackson, NC 27845
(252) 534-1371 x 2238 office (252) 534-1533 fax
www.northampton.k12.nc.us

February 5, 2014

Dear Parent of Northampton County Schools' Third Grade Student:

In July of 2012, the North Carolina General Assembly passed the 2012 Budget Act, House Bill 950/S.L.2012-142 Section 7A, which included the Read to Achieve Act as part of the Excellent Public Schools Act. The **Read to Achieve Act** requires that third graders who are not reading at a proficient level on the Reading End-of-Grade (EOG) assessment are given additional support and assistance to increase their reading skills. This new law became effective during this, 2013-2014, school year. What does that mean for you and your child?

During the first few weeks of school, your third grader was given a Beginning-of-Grade (BOG) assessment in reading to determine his/her reading skills. From this information, teachers were able to plan and deliver appropriate reading instruction. At the end of the school year, all third graders will be assessed on the Reading EOG assessment that will determine their reading proficiency. Any student not demonstrating proficiency will not be promoted to the 4th grade unless he/she demonstrates reading proficiency through one of the following options:

- 1) Completion of Grade 3 Student Reading Portfolio **or**
- 2) Retest of the EOG Reading Test with a score of 3 or 4 **or**
- 3) Passing the North Carolina Read to Achieve Test with a score of 3 or 4 or Completion of the Grade 3 Student Reading Portfolio after participating in the Summer Reading Camp **or**
- 4) Passing the North Carolina Read to Achieve Test with a score of 3 or 4 or Completion of the Grade 3 Student Reading Portfolio at mid-year promotion before November 1.

In conjunction with the sessions your child's school has already held, Northampton County Schools will host two parent information sessions on Read to Achieve and the impact it will have on you and your child on February 18, 2014 and February 20, 2014 at 6:00 PM. Please make yourself available and attend one of these sessions, learn more about this legislation, and leave with strategies you can use immediately to support your child. Both sessions will impart the same information just at different locations and times.

If you have questions, please bring them to one of the sessions mentioned above and learn how you can partner with us to help your child be successful. Also, feel free to contact your child's teacher, principal or me at 252-534-1371 extension 2238 or by email at hoggardc@northampton.k12.nc.us.

Educationally,

Catina Jackson-Hoggard
Director
Federal Programs and K-8 Education