

Riverside Public School
4800 East Foreman Road
El Reno, OK 73036-9022
(405) 262-2907

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Dear Parent/Guardian:

Riverside Public School is committed to providing a quality education. A crucial skill to be successful in life and school is reading. The Oklahoma Legislature, in 2011, amended the Reading Sufficiency Act [RSA] to eliminate social promotion. The new law requires schools to retain students who do not pass the Oklahoma Core Curriculum Test for reading in the third grade. Students entering the third grade in 2013-2014 will be the first group affected by the Third Grade Graduation Law.

There are six good cause exemptions for promotion for which students who score at the Unsatisfactory level on the reading portion of the OCCT may qualify to be promoted to the fourth grade:

- The student is identified as Limited-English Proficient [LEP]English Language Learner [ELL] on a screening tool approved by the Oklahoma State Department of Education Office of Bilingual/Migrant Education and have a language instruction Education Plan in place prior to the administration of the third grade OCCT. The student must have had less than two (2) years of instruction in an ELL program.
- To promote a student using an alternative standardized reading assessment the following criteria shall apply; the student must score an acceptable level of performance on an approved alternative standardized reading assessment.
- The student satisfactorily completes a student portfolio demonstrating the student's mastery of Oklahoma reading standards.
- A student with disabilities participates in the OCCT and has an IEP that has been previously retained in kindergarten, first grade, second grade, or third grade. The IEP must identify reading as an area of educational need for the student and that the student has received intensive remediation for more than two years.
- A student demonstrates a reading deficiency and has been previously retained in kindergarten, first grade, second grade, or third grade for a total of two years. The student must have received intensive reading instruction for two or more years.
- A student with disabilities is assessed with alternative achievement standards under the Oklahoma School Testing program. The student must be identified as needing special education services prior to the administration of the 3rd Grade OCCT.

The district is committed to assisting each and every student reach his or her academic potential in reading. This commitment coupled with parental involvement in practicing nightly reading can make the difference for our students. If you have questions about the Third Grade Retention Law, please contact your child's teacher or the superintendent.

Other helpful resources for the Reading Sufficiency Act:

<http://ok.gov/sde/reading-sufficiency-act>

<http://ok.gov/sde/readine-and-literacy>

<http://ok.gov/sde/pa-rent-resources>

Sincerely,
Riverside School