

What you need to know about Ohio's Third Grade Reading Guarantee

In June 2012, the Ohio Senate Bill 316 (SB316) was signed into law by Governor John Kasich. SB316 included the Third Grade Reading Guarantee, which states that students who enter third grade in the 2013-2014 school year or after must attain the appropriate level of reading competency before advancing to the fourth grade. Parents will be notified through the school. Students will receive specific intervention to help them meet their instructional needs.

Some additional key points from the Third Grade Reading Guarantee include:

- ✓ All K-3 students will be given annual English language arts diagnostic tests to determine reading ability.
- ✓ If a student is “not on track” to read at grade level, the school district must create a reading improvement and monitoring plan that details the student’s reading deficiencies, describes needed interventions and includes parents in the improvement plan. (This is PCSD’s Response to Intervention (Rtl) process).
- ✓ Unless students are exempted for reasons stated in law, those who have not reached grade-level reading by the end of the third grade may be retained.
- ✓ Students who are retained will continue to receive intensive remediation, including at least 90 minutes of reading instruction daily.
- ✓ These provisions take effect this fall, but student retention under the New criteria will not occur until the 2013-14 school year.

What can parents do at home?

- ✓ Talk and listen to your child.
- ✓ Read together with your child.
- ✓ Encourage early writing efforts.
- ✓ Show your child that you read, whether it’s the newspaper, magazines or books.
- ✓ Take your child to the library and check out books to read together.
- ✓ Start a home library.

For more information regarding the Third Grade Reading Guarantee, visit the Ohio Department of Education website at: www.ode.state.oh.us and search *Third Grade Reading Guarantee*.