

### Mid-year Promotion

- ❖ Students who have been retained will be given a chance to show proficiency of third grade standards by passing the Read to Achieve test or by completing a reading portfolio halfway through the retention year. This mid-year promotion will be determined by November 1. If a student shows proficiency, he or she will have the retained label removed. If a student does not show proficiency at mid-year, he or she will begin work on a portfolio based on fourth grade standards to hopefully be completed by the end of the fourth grade and to have the retention label removed from his or her records. If the student does not complete a fourth grade portfolio by the end of the year, the retained label remains on his or her record. *All students will remain in the same classes for the entire year* and will continue to receive the 90-minute block of uninterrupted reading instruction and take the fourth grade EOG in the spring.

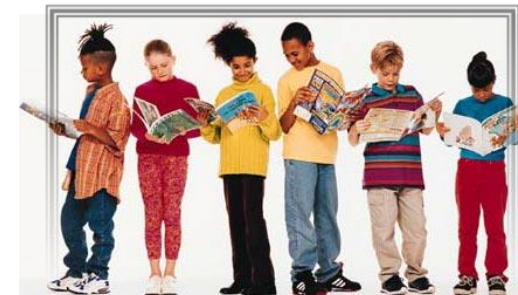
#### **Links to Resources**

[www.pta.org](http://www.pta.org)  
[www.reading.org](http://www.reading.org)  
[www.readwritethink.org](http://www.readwritethink.org)  
[www.readingrockets.org](http://www.readingrockets.org)  
[www2.ed.gov/parents](http://www2.ed.gov/parents)  
[www.textproject.org](http://www.textproject.org)  
[www.k12reader.com](http://www.k12reader.com)  
[www.res.haywood.k12.nc.us](http://www.res.haywood.k12.nc.us)

### What can I do to help my child?

- Find some time for reading every day.
- Be sure to read books that your child enjoys. If you have selected a book, and then find you are not interested in it, stop reading it and select another one.
- Even 15 minutes a day will make a big difference in your child's achievement and enjoyment of reading.
- Take books with you and your child everywhere you go.
- In addition to reading books, children can practice their reading skills by engaging in many different online reading activities.
- Visit the local public library and check out books.
- Talk to your child and encourage your child to talk and write about the things that interest him or her.
- Stop and talk about what is happening and make predictions for what might happen next when watching a television show or movie. Ask your child to provide evidence from the show to support his/her thinking.
- Make reading together fun!!

## North Carolina's **READ** to **ACHIEVE**



*A Guide for Parents to House Bill 950*



Haywood County Schools

[www.haywood.k12.nc.us](http://www.haywood.k12.nc.us)

### **Riverbend Elementary**

School, parents, and community working together to provide each student an appropriate learning experience in a positive, secure environment

## What is “Read to Achieve”?

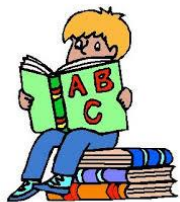
Read to Achieve is a part of the Excellent Public Schools Act which became law in July of 2012. Read to Achieve became effective for the 2013-2014 school year.

**“The goal of the State is to ensure that every student read at or above grade level by the end of third grade and continue to progress in reading proficiency so that he or she can read, comprehend, integrate, and apply complex texts needed for secondary education and career success.”**

from the Excellent Public Schools Act

The program includes 7 components:

1. Comprehensive Plan for Reading Achievement
2. Developmental Screening and Kindergarten Entry Assessment
3. Facilitating Early Grade Reading Proficiency
4. Elimination of Social Promotion
5. Successful Reading Development for Retained Students
6. Notification Requirements to Parents and Guardians
7. Accountability Measures



### Third Grade: What to Expect

- ❖ Third grade students will complete 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and the EOG for reading.
- ❖ If they score at grade level, they are promoted to 4<sup>th</sup> grade. If they do not score at grade level, they may take a retest of the EOG in a different form, or an alternate Read to Achieve test.
- ❖ If they score at grade level on the retest or on the Read to Achieve test, they are promoted to 4<sup>th</sup> grade.

### What if my child does not pass the retest or Read to Achieve test?

- ❖ If third grade students are still not at grade level, they may qualify for a “good cause exemption”---including, but not limited to,
  - Students who demonstrate reading proficiency appropriate for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade on an alternative assessment;
  - Students who demonstrate reading proficiency through a completed student reading portfolio;
  - Students who have received reading interventions and have been retained more than once before 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.

### What if my child does not pass the retest or Read to Achieve test, and is not a candidate for a good cause exemption?

- ❖ Students are then enrolled in a Summer Reading Camp.
  - Enrollment in the summer camp is the parent’s decision. If the choice is not to enroll, the student is retained in a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classroom.
- ❖ At the end of Summer Reading Camp, if the student passes the Read to Achieve test or passes with a completed reading portfolio, the student will be promoted to 4<sup>th</sup> grade.
- ❖ If a student is still not proficient after the summer reading camp, the student moves to the next year with a “retained” label on his or her record. A child who is identified as retained under this law will be afforded many extra intensive interventions and opportunities to develop skills and gain proficiency. Retention gives the child the extra time that is needed to catch up in reading and build stronger skills for other content areas. Students who are retained will be placed in a classroom that works on both the 4<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum and the child’s reading deficiencies.