

May 21, 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian,

This letter is a follow up to your phone conversation on **INSERT DATE**. As was discussed, based on **[CHILD'S NAME]** preliminary English Language Arts Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress (ELA M-STEP) score, your student has been identified for retention in third grade.

Michigan's state legislature passed the Read by Grade Three law in October 2016 which requires students to repeat third grade if they are reading one grade or more below grade level based on the ELA M-STEP. Any student scoring lower than a second-grade level, will receive a letter sent by certified mail from the state saying the student may need to be retained in third grade.

Because of your child's test score, you will be receiving a letter from the state notifying you of the law and urging you to contact the school.

As you know, your child has already been receiving reading support. Some of the supports your child has received to-date include:

- Tier 3 Reading Intervention Support during the school day.
- Tier 2 Reading Intervention Support during the school day.
- Classwide Reading Intervention during the school day.
- Summer School

We know that in many situations retention is not the best option. The Read By Grade 3 Law does allow parents and guardians to ask that their student be promoted to fourth grade in some cases. The state has identified some Good Cause Exemptions that may apply to your child, and be a reason to request promotion.

These exemptions must be filed within the required 30 days after receipt of the notification. **We have created a [Jotform](#) for you to complete should you wish to request a good cause exemption.** A member of the school staff will then contact you to confirm your request.

Fraser Public Schools does not believe retention is the only effective method to help students master a subject area or help them to be successful in the classroom. Our philosophy is to provide your child with quality instruction starting in kindergarten, Developmental Kindergarten, and for many students, pre-school. When a student is struggling in any subject area we will support instruction with additional programs and

early interventions in order to help the student be successful. The District is also offering additional support during the summer for students who are tier 2 or 3 in reading or whose scores fall below a 1252 on the spring M-STEP.

For more on the state's Read By Grade Three Law, go to the Michigan Department of Education's webpage on early literacy ([www.michigan.gov/earlyliteracy](http://www.michigan.gov/earlyliteracy)), where you can find helpful information and resources.

Please click [here](#) to complete the [JOTFORM](#) and file your child's good cause exemption. Please contact your building principal with additional questions or concerns.

Signed,

Ms. Wozniak