

State of Tennessee
Public Chapter No. 351
Senate Bill No. 1776
Substituted for: House Bill No. 2038

Section 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 6, Part 31, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

49-6-3115

Beginning with the 2011-2012 school year, a student in the third grade shall not be promoted to the next grade level unless the student has shown a basic understanding of curriculum and ability to perform the skills required in the subject of reading as demonstrated by the student's grades or standardized test results. However, such student may be promoted if the student participates in an LEA approved research-based intervention prior to the beginning of the next school year. This section shall not apply to students who have IEPs pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.

Within Knox County Elementary Schools this bill will be interpreted in the following way:

Who: the Knox County Schools 3rd Grade Readers

Procedure:

1. Each school will identify its 3rd grade readers who are at-risk based on standardized testing/screenings such as STAR Renaissance, TCAP, CBM, or Diebels. At risk will be defined as scoring between the 10thile and the 25thile on STAR Renaissance screening or below basic on the TCAP testing.
2. Third grade students scoring in the at-risk level will consistently be provided a research-based intervention such as:
 - Voyager Passport
 - Triumphs
 - Destination Success
 - Read Naturally
 - Soar to Success
 - Ticket to Read

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- Any of the suggested interventions on the list provided at the beginning of the year when you were choosing what interventions you would use for RTI².
3. Student progress will be monitored throughout the year.
 - a. For an example, Voyager is monitored every ten days.
 - b. STAR Renaissance., CBM, and Diebels testing/screening is administered three to four times a year.
 4. At the end of the school year, documentation of the 3rd grade reading intervention will be placed in each student's CR.
 5. A S-team may be schedule at the end of the school year for students:
 - a. who didn't make progress with the intervention.
 - b. who scored below basic on the spring STAR Renaissance or TCAP testing/screening and they were **not** in intervention. Other test data will be reviewed. Summer school may be offered.
 - c. who score below basic and are new to the school or district.

The S-team should examine:

- All standardized testing
- All classroom testing
- All grades
- Teacher input.

The S-team could recommend:

- Summer school
- Promotion to 4th grade
- Further interventions

6. Students who are exempt from the 3rd grade Retention Law:
 - a. Students with an IEP
 - b. Students on RTI tiers who are receiving interventions
 - c. ELL students who do not take the TCAP test because it is their first year in the United States.

Reminder - No ELL student should be retained without discussion and consultation with Dr. Alyson Lerma, Supervisor of World Languages and ELL.

Retention will be considered for 3rd grade students who score below basic on standardized tests who **have not** participated in a researched based intervention during the school year or during the summer.