



November 4, 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The South Carolina Read to Succeed Act became law in 2014. The intent of this law is to ensure that all students have the reading skills necessary to become college and career ready. This law includes significant changes regarding the promotion and retention of third grade students.

The law states:

**A student must be retained in the third grade if the student fails to demonstrate reading proficiency at the end of the third grade year as indicated by scoring at the lowest achievement level on the state summative reading assessment.**

Though there are a number of exceptions to this requirement in the law, please be assured that our goal is to ensure that all students are proficient readers by the end of third grade. To accomplish this goal, we will utilize an array of strategies, interventions, and programs to address the individual needs of our students. This will include, but is not limited to, additional instructional time devoted to literacy, the afterschool comprehensive remediation program, summer reading camp, small group and individualized instruction, specialized literacy training for classroom teachers, and support from school-based literacy coaches.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact your school's principal or the Office of Early Childhood and Elementary Education at 803-231-6871. You may also find information about the Read to Succeed Act on our website at [www.richlandone.org/read](http://www.richlandone.org/read).

Sincerely,

Craig Witherspoon, Ed.D.  
Superintendent