



# YUKON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT

600 MAPLE  
YUKON, OKLAHOMA 73099

October 20, 2013

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Yukon Public Schools is committed to providing every student an outstanding education. A crucial skill required for students to be successful in school and life is reading. The Oklahoma Legislature, in 2011, amended the Reading Sufficiency Act (RSA) to eliminate social promotion. The new law requires schools to retain students who do not pass the Oklahoma Core Curriculum Test for reading in the third grade. Students entering the third grade in 2013-2014 will be the first group affected by the Third Grade Graduation Law.

There are six good cause exemptions for promotion for which students who score at the Unsatisfactory level on the reading portion of the OCCT may qualify to be promoted to the fourth grade:

- The student is identified as Limited-English Proficient (LEP)/English Language Learner (ELL) on a screening tool approved by the Oklahoma State Department of Education Office of Bilingual/Migrant Education **and** have a Language Instruction Education Plan in place prior to the administration of the third grade OCCT. The student must have had **less** than two (2) years of instruction in an ELL program.
- A student with disabilities is assessed with alternative achievement standards under the Oklahoma School Testing program. The student must be identified as needing special education services **prior** to the administration of the third grade OCCT.
- To promote a student using an alternative standardized reading assessment, the following criteria shall apply: the student must score an acceptable level of performance on an approved alternative standardized reading assessment.
- The student **satisfactorily** completes a student portfolio demonstrating the student's mastery of Oklahoma reading standards.
- A student with disabilities participates in the OCCT **and** has an IEP that has been previously **retained** in kindergarten, first grade, second grade or third grade. The IEP **must** identify reading as an area of education need for the student and that the student has received intensive remediation for more than two years.
- A student demonstrates a reading deficiency **and** has been previously **retained** in kindergarten, first grade, second grade, or third grade for a total of two years. The student must have received intensive reading instruction for two or more years.

The district is committed to assisting each and every student reach his or her academic potential in reading. This commitment coupled with parental involvement in practicing nightly reading can make the difference for our students. If you have questions about the Third Grade Retention Law, please contact Kathy Davis, Director of Curriculum at 405-354-6608 or by email [Kathy.Davis@Yukonps.com](mailto:Kathy.Davis@Yukonps.com). If you need information about your student's academic progress in reading, contact your child's school.

Other helpful resources for the Reading Sufficiency Act:

<http://ok.gov/sde/reading-sufficiency-act>

<http://ok.gov/sde/reading-and-literacy>

<http://ok.gov/sde/parent-resources>

Sincerely,

Bill Denton  
Superintendent