

Dear Parent/Guardian:

In 2016 the Michigan Legislature passed the “3rd Grade Reading Law” (Public Act 306). Its purpose is to ensure that all students exiting 3rd grade are at or above grade level proficiency and provides extra support for K-3 students who are not reading at grade level. This change affects students who entered kindergarten in the 2016-17 school year.

In accordance with PA 306, districts are required to administer state approved reading assessments to all K-3 students beginning this school year. Since 2018 Woodley Leadership Academy has been using the Northwest Evaluation Association/Measure of Academic Progress (NWEA/MAP) to identify students who need additional instruction or interventions. Using this information, an Individual Reading Plan may be developed for students not at proficiency level. Parents will receive regular communication about the planned services including additional reading support and strategies they can use to support literacy at home.

Beginning in the 2019-20 school year, the Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress (M-Step) that all 3rd grade students take at the end of the year in reading will be used to determine promotion to 4th grade. Your student must score less than one year behind on M-Step or demonstrate 3rd grade reading level proficiency through an alternative test or portfolio of work. If a student is reading below grade level at the end of 3rd grade, the parent will be informed in writing and further action including possible retention may be necessary.

Students need strong reading skills to support their learning in all subject areas. Please assist us by reading at home with your child, retell favorite stories, ask questions and encourage them to write about what they have read. Together, teachers and parents can ensure that all our Woodley Leadership Academy 3rd grade students achieve reading success!

Sincerely,

Pamela Farris, Ed.S

Regional Vice President