



## Instructional Updates



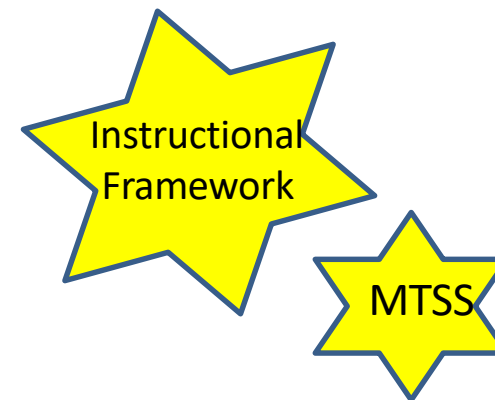
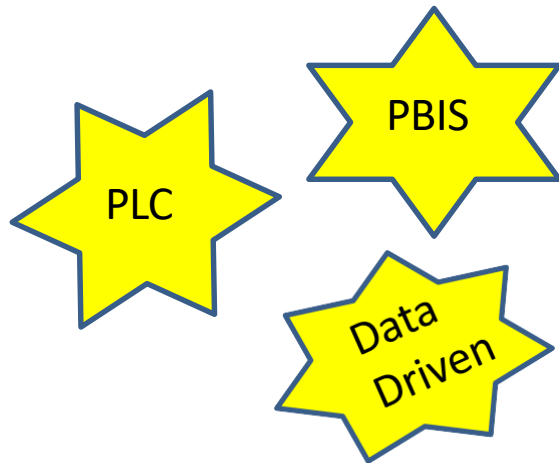
KEEPING YOU CONNECTED  
To What Matters Most

*Ensuring Our Students Are College and/or Career Ready & Are Productive and Responsible Members of Society*



# Board Goals

Goal 2: Academic Achievement	Goal 3: Reading Readiness
<b>To improve</b> the academic success of all students.	<b>To increase</b> the number of students reading on grade level in grades K – 3.





# Read to Succeed Law

- Act 114 requires that a student must be retained in the third grade if the student fails to demonstrate reading proficiency by scoring Does Not Meet Expectations on SC READY Reading.
- A student may be exempt for a “Good Cause Exemption” from the mandatory retention but shall continue to receive instructional support and services and reading intervention appropriate for their age and reading level.
- Successful completion of Summer Reading camp is defined more narrowly to include alternate formative assessments or reassessment of SC READY and revised cut scores to reflect the requirements of Act 114.

# WHY THIRD GRADE?



According to the 2013 National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP), only **thirty-five percent of the nation's fourth grade** students are reading on grade level. A substantial reading deficiency must be addressed before students can move on to the more difficult school work required in fourth grade and beyond when textbooks become more complex and reading passages are longer. Those who have trouble understanding what they read find it very difficult to keep up. Many students become frustrated when they try to tackle this schoolwork without independent reading skills. For some students, this leads to years of difficulty in school and limited opportunities in college and career.

# Act 114 Read to Succeed



- The goal is to ensure that each student receives high-quality literacy instruction and has the opportunity to increase their reading proficiency.
- Identified students will attend a camp four hours a day, four days a week for six weeks, or **the equivalent of ninety-six instructional hours.**
- Summer Reading Camp (SRC) requirements are extended to students in Grade 1 and Grade 2 in SY 2025-26 and SY 2026-27, respectively.

# Overview of Act 114



- Evidence-based literacy instruction
- Universal screening
- Early intervention
- Summer Reading Camps
- Family engagement
- Teacher literacy training

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# What Changed Under Act 114



- Balanced Literacy → **Science of Reading (LETRS)**
  - **Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling.**
  - LETRS focuses on the research behind how children learn to read and how teachers can provide effective instruction in:
    - **Phonological Awareness** – hearing and manipulating sounds in spoken words
    - **Phonics** – understanding the relationship between letters and sounds
    - **Fluency** – reading accurately and automatically
    - **Vocabulary** – understanding word meanings
    - **Reading Comprehension** – making meaning from text
    - **Written Language and Spelling**
    - **Assessment and Intervention**
- Intervention after failure → **Early identification**
- Variable training → **Structured literacy training**

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# Good Cause of Exemptions



- Limited English Proficiency and less than two years of instruction in English as a Second Language program
- Students with disabilities whose IEP indicates the use of alternative assessments or alternative reading interventions and students with disabilities who IEP or 504 Plan reflects that the student has received intensive remediation in reading for more than 2 years but still does not substantially demonstrate reading proficiency

# Good Cause Exemptions



- Students who have received two years of reading intervention and was previously retained
- Student who demonstrates 3<sup>rd</sup> reading proficiency by scoring the equivalent of Approaches Expectations on iReady in the spring
- Student successfully participates in a summer reading camp at the conclusion of 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and demonstrates reading proficiency by achieving Approaches Expectation on SC Ready.

# Roles of Reading Coaches



- The Reading Coach/Literacy Coach will assist teachers in ensuring that all teachers are teachers of reading and implement effective literacy strategies.
- Coaches will work with all teachers (content teachers and elective areas) in the school he or she serves, prioritizing time for those teachers, activities, and roles that will have the greatest impact on student achievement, namely coaching and mentoring in classrooms.

# Summer Reading Camp



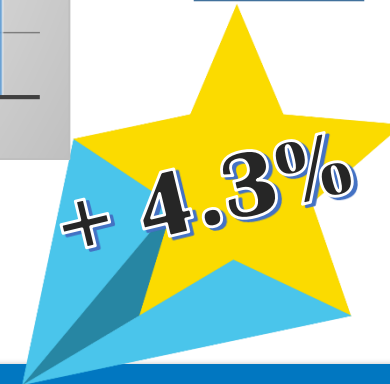
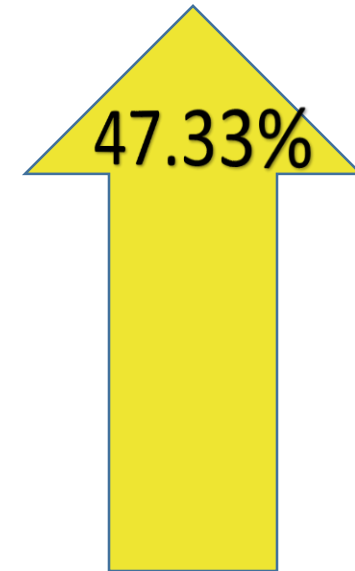
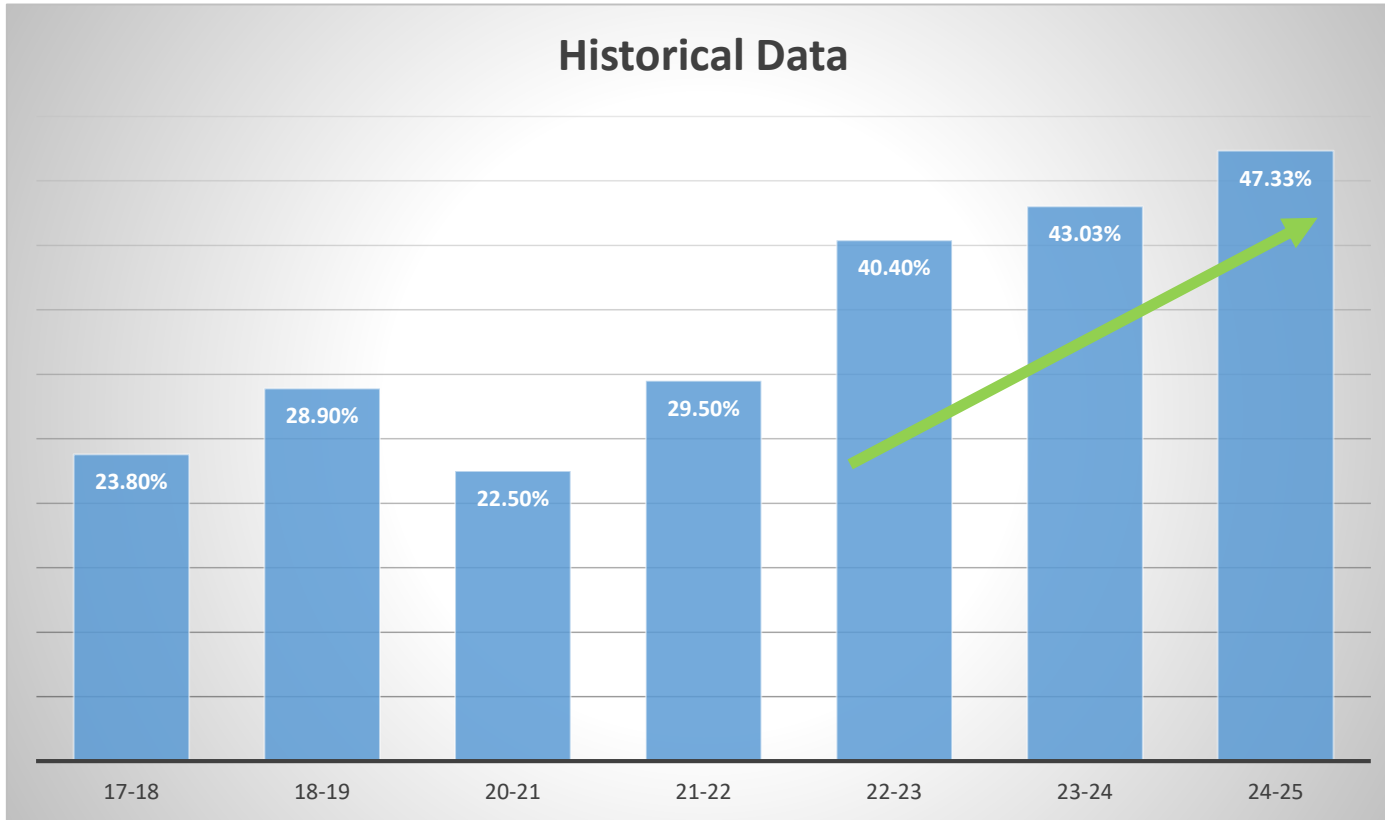
- **Required to Invite:**

- All 3<sup>rd</sup> grader students eligible for retention.
- All eligible 1<sup>st</sup> graders scoring at or below the Remediation Cut Score (24.7%)

## Summer 26:

- 1st Grade- 74 students invited
  - 25 currently attending
- 3rd Grade- 17 students invited
  - 44 currently attending

# SC Ready ELA



State Average 59.6%

**Public Release on Sept. 2, 2025**

# District Snapshot: 3rd Grade SC Ready Data



	DNM	App	Meets	Exceeds	<b>M &amp; E</b>
2024	36.8%	19.1%	22.5%	21.6%	44.1%
2025	15.6%	28.9%	30.7%	24.9%	55.6%
2026					

# Next Steps & Strategic Priorities



- 1. Strengthen Tier 1 instruction
- 2. Expand evidence based interventions
- 3. Increase family engagement
- 4. Build teacher expertise
- 5. Improve proficiency outcomes

# Questions ?

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