

Dear Parents,

It is important to inform you of some significant changes to Arizona Revised Statutes regarding the promotion and retention of third grade students.

The newly revised law states that a student shall not be promoted from the third grade if the student obtains a score on the AIMS reading test (or a successor test) that demonstrates he or she is **reading far below the third grade level**.

Beginning in 2013-2014 school year, there are two exemptions from ARS §15-701.

In accordance with the new law, a school district or governing board or the governing body of a charter school may be allowed to promote a pupil who earns an AIMS score that falls far below the third grade level for any of the following reasons:

- English Language Learners or Limited English Proficient that have received less than two years of English instruction; and
- Students with disabilities provided that the pupil's individualized education program (IEP) team and the pupil's parent or guardian agree that promotion is appropriate based on the pupil's IEP.

The revised statute (A.R.S. § 15-701) can be accessed at the following website:

<http://www.azleg.gov/ars/15/00701.htm>

If you have questions or need additional information please contact Tony Best at 623-933-3733.

Sincerely,

Tony Best

School Director