

GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER ACADEMY

"Intelligence plus character — that is the goal of true education." — Martin Luther King, Jr.

April 29, 2021

Dear 3rd Grade Families:

Being a good reader is critical for a student to be successful in both school and in life. This letter serves as a point of information for families regarding the Michigan Third Grade Reading Legislation. In 2016, the Michigan Legislature passed the Third Grade Reading Law to ensure that students are reading at-or-above grade level when they exit 3rd grade. In accordance with the law, districts across the state will assess the reading skills of students in kindergarten through 3rd grade at the beginning of the school year. The intent is to help identify students who may need additional support in learning to read. The results of the assessments will provide useful information to help teachers better meet the individual needs of each student.

This legislation requires that each school administers an ongoing assessment to identify each child's reading progress. These assessments are administered three times per year and the first must be administered within thirty days of school beginning.

George Washington Carver Academy has determined that if a child performed in the 50th percentile or below on the NWEA district assessment, and/or scores as non-proficient on the M-STEP, the school will provide an Individual Reading Improvement Plan to address and support student areas of weakness and provide resources for parents and guardians. If your child has been identified to be performing in the 50th percentile or below, your child's teacher will be notifying you to discuss options for your scholar.

All 3rd grade students are required to take the state assessment (M-STEP) at the end of the year. Any 3rd grade students who are one or more years below grade level in reading on the state assessment will not be eligible to be promoted to 4th grade. At that time, the family of a 3rd grade child who is not reading at grade level will receive written notice that their child will not be promoted to 4th grade, unless there is good cause for a student to be exempted.

Given that reading proficiency is a strong predictor of future career and college readiness, literacy is embedded in all subject areas. Although the school focuses on early literacy throughout the school day, we still need your support. Family engagement plays a vital role in a child's success as a reader. As a partner in your child's education, we encourage you to communicate with your child's teacher regarding their progress.

Lastly, a number of additional resources can be found on the school website under the parent tab. For additional information, please contact the school and/or child's teacher.

Sincerely,



Christopher Lindsay
Building Leader

