

What is *Read*  
*to Achieve*?

North Carolina General Assembly's **Read to Achieve** program is part of the Excellent Public Schools Act that became law in July 2012.

The goal of the **Read to Achieve** program is to ensure that every student reads at grade level by the end of 3rd grade.

# What does this mean for our 3<sup>rd</sup> graders?

- The law outlines that if a third-grade student does not demonstrate the ability to read at grade level through one of several **good cause exemptions**, they will be encouraged to attend a district sponsored reading camp over the summer. At the end of the summer camp your child will either demonstrate proficiency by passing an alternative assessment or continue on to 4<sup>th</sup> grade with a retained status.

# What are the “good cause exemptions”?

- Limited English Proficient Students with less than two school years of instruction in ESL Program
- Students with disabilities whose individualized education program indicates (i) the use of NCEXTEND 1 alternate assessment, (ii) at least a two school year delay in educational performance, or (iii) receipt of intensive reading interventions for at least two school years
- Students who have (i) received reading intervention and (ii) previously been retained more than once in kindergarten, first, second or third grades
- Students who demonstrate reading proficiency appropriate for third grade students on approved alternative assessments
- Students who demonstrate, through a student reading portfolio, reading proficiency appropriate for third grade students
- Students who demonstrate proficiency on Read to Achieve Test

# What is a reading portfolio?

- If your child is participating in Read to Achieve, they will be administered 3 different reading passages related to each of the 12 3<sup>rd</sup> grade reading standards, and answer 5 multiple choice comprehension questions for each passage. If they pass at least 70% of the questions for any standard, they are considered to be proficient for that standard. A reading portfolio can be used as a good cause exemption if all of the 12 standards are passed.

# How is Leesville supporting your child?

- Janelle Baldwin-intervention (pull outs)
- Mandy Peters-intervention (push ins)
- Small group and targeted intervention provided by classroom teacher
- Progress monitoring throughout the school year

# How can parents help?

- Read for at least 20 minutes each night
- Ask questions about book to ensure understanding
- Repeated reading to increase fluency
- Have child answer a question about book in writing
- See handout of parent recommendations

# Where can we get more info?

- Wake County Schools website:
- <http://www.wcpss.net/parents/guides/read-to-achieve/index.html>
- North Carolina Dept of Public Instruction:
- <http://www.dpi.state.nc.us/k-3literacy/achieve/>