



## Read by Grade Three – A Guide for Families

### What is it?

Read by Grade Three is a new Nevada State Law (SB 391) to ensure all young children get the reading skills they need to be successful in school and in the future. Read by Grade Three helps:

- Create stronger partnerships with families;
- Families understand their child's reading progress;
- Encourage families to ask questions and be aware of academic expectations; and
- Support teachers in receiving specialized training and resources to help struggling readers succeed.

### Will this new law affect my child?

The law applies to all kindergartner through third grade students; however the retention provision begins with the kindergarten students of the 2016-2017 School Year. That is, kindergarten students starting in the 2016-2017 School Year may be subject to retention at the end of grade three if they are not reading at their grade level.

### What are some questions I should be asking my child's teacher?

1. *How well is my child reading? Is my child reading as expected?*
2. *What is the plan to help my child in reading? What is the teacher doing? What can I do to help my child at home?*
3. *Can you show me some ways that I can help him or her read better?*
4. *Can you provide me with a list of books at his or her level?*
5. *What books will help improve his or her reading skills?*
6. *How do I know if my child understands what he or she is reading?*
7. *How will I know if the plan is working? If it isn't, how will the plan change?*
8. *What parent activities or workshops are available to me to help my child with reading?*



**Washoe County School District**  
Every Child, By Name And Face, To Graduation™

## What does it mean for my child?

- At the beginning of each school year and throughout the year, every child in kindergarten through third grade will be tested to see if he or she is reading at grade level.
- If your child's reading is not on track for his or her grade level, extra reading help will be provided by the school. If your kindergartner is not on track by the end of third grade, he or she might not advance to fourth grade.
- There are certain exemptions that allow a student who is not reading at grade level to advance to fourth grade. (Talk to your child's teacher or school administrator to discuss exemptions).

## How will I know if my child's reading is on track?

- Your child's teacher and other school staff will share results of your child's reading test beginning in the winter of each school year.
- If your child is not reading as expected, school staff will create a plan to help him or her improve.



## I need help understanding my child's test scores. What should I do?

- Ask your child's teacher - the best place to start is with your child's teacher. You should receive copies of these scores either with your child's report card or after your school has completed testing. Test results are also available on the Infinite Campus Parent Portal under the section titled "Assessment."

## How do I help my child outside of the classroom?

- *Read to your child in any language every day, anywhere for at least 20 minutes.*
- *Make reading part of your daily routine.*
- *Talk with, and listen to your child.*
- *Ensure your child is in school, ready to learn.*
- *Read books without words.*
- *Have books available around the house.*
- *Visit your local public library.*
- *Be a role model for reading.*
- *Ask your child to tell you about what they read?*
- *When reading to your child, stop often to comment, ask questions, and look at the pictures.*
- *Set up a writing station at home where your child can write and draw.*
- *Retell stories that have been read several times.*
- *After reading, invite your child to talk, draw, paint, or act out the story.*
- *If your child has an Individual Education Plan (IEP), please talk to your case manager about specific reading strategies for your child.*
- *Attend a Parent University class to help your child with literacy. Check our calendar of classes at: [www.wcsdparentu.org](http://www.wcsdparentu.org).*
- *Download the WCSD Family Guides for Learning for grades kindergarten to eight at: <http://www.washeschools.net/Page/4292>.*
- *Use the following videos and tip sheets to support literacy learning at home: <http://www.washeschools.net/Page/5342>.*
- *Visit the NBC Parent Toolkit to access resources at: <http://parenttoolkit.com/>.*