



Miami-Dade County Public Schools

giving our students the world

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January 29, 2016

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) has made great progress in its efforts to increase the third grade promotion rate. As we continue to offer a variety of instructional models to meet the needs and learning styles of our diverse population of students, it is also our goal to keep parents and guardians informed regarding assessments that are occurring in schools across the District.

As required by the statewide public school student progression law eliminating social promotion (Section 1008.25, Florida Statute), a student may be promoted to grade 4 if the student demonstrates reading mastery in one of several assessments: the Grade 3 Florida Standards Assessment (FSA); the Grade 3 Reading Student Portfolio; or another standardized reading assessment that has been approved by the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE).

The Grade 3 Reading Student Portfolio, mandated by the FLDOE, is the first assessment administered, and it began in January 2016. This portfolio contains a variety of assessments that provide important information regarding each student's mastery of the standards assessed on the FSA-English Language Arts.

The FSA will be administered March 29 - April 7, 2016. The FSA measures students' performance on selected state standards. Grade 3 students who do not score a Level 2 or above on this test may take the alternative standardized reading assessments administered by the District. One such assessment is given at the end of the school year after FSA results are received, and the other is administered during the summer reading camps.

The testing schedule delineated on the following chart indicates the dates on which students in grade 3 will be assessed during the 2015-2016 school year.

Assessment	Dates Administered
Grade 3 Reading Student Portfolio	January – May 2016
FSA ELA	March 29 – April 7, 2016
Alternative Standardized Reading Assessment*	May 31- June 7, 2016
Alternative Assessment for Grade 3 Promotion*	Last week of 2016 summer reading camp

*Administered only to grade 3 students who score a level 1 on the FSA ELA.

The District strongly recommends that students who do not meet the requirements for promotion attend summer reading camp and take the Grade 3 Alternative Assessment for Grade 3 Promotion. Students who do not attend summer reading camp are also eligible to take the Alternative Assessment for Grade 3 Promotion. However, in order to participate they must register during the designated registration period before the end of the school year. If registered, students may take the Grade 3 Alternative Assessment for Grade 3 Promotion at their home school (if it is open) or at a school in their region that is open. Enrollment information and important registration deadlines for the 2016 summer reading camp will be provided by your child's school and via the M-DCPS website at <http://summerschool.dadeschools.net>.

Our commitment to quality education for every student is unwavering as we strive to ensure that your child continues to receive a world class education.

Sincerely,



Marie Izquierdo, Chief Academic Officer
Office of Academics and Transformation

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