

October 25, 2011

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The information attached comes from the Indiana Department of Education and explains a new state law in effect for this year concerning the IREAD-3 reading test. You may recall from Parent Orientation meetings held on Monday, August 22, 2011, the IREAD-3 test is a state test that all third graders must pass in order to move on to 4th grade. The test will be given Monday through Wednesday, March 19-21, 2012, and the state claims that results will be available in May. **The most important information for you as a parent is that if your child does not receive a passing score on the IREAD-3 test, it is required that he/she be retained in 3rd grade.**

There are waivers for some students. If students have already been retained TWICE, they may be passed on to 4th grade even if they fail the IREAD-3 test. Also, if students have been qualified with a disability, their case conference team may decide to promote them regardless of the results of the IREAD-3 test.

To give all of our students the best chance at success at Northeastern Elementary we are doing the following:

- Every student receives 90 minutes of uninterrupted reading instruction.
- Every student receives small group instruction to address their instructional needs.
- We have two instructional assistants to aid in the teaching of reading.
- We have an additional certified teacher in Grade 3 to work with students solely in reading.

It is our goal that every child succeed in passing the IREAD-3 test.

To keep you informed of your child's progress:

- You will receive academic information concerning your child's progress through mid-term grade reports and 9-weeks report cards.
- You will be informed of your child's reading level.
- You will receive NWEA results concerning your child's reading progress.
- You will be scheduled time for a Parent/Teacher conference. Additionally, you may request a conference with the teacher or an administrator throughout the year.

You may help your child in reading by:

- Ensuring your child completes reading homework.
- Going through Friday Folders. This gives you more frequent information of your child's progress.
- Encouraging your child to read a variety of genres.
- Setting aside time regularly for sustained reading of chapter books over several days.

Please contact your child's teacher with questions or concerns. Working together, we will do our best to prepare your child to become the best reader possible and succeed in passing the I-READ-3 test.

Sincerely,

Kathy Pribble