

## Third Grade Reading Guarantee Parent Letter

Dear Third Grade Parent,

Last year, the Ohio legislature passed Senate Bill 316, which included the new Third Grade Reading Guarantee. This means that the following actions must be taken by all elementary schools throughout the State of Ohio:

Districts are required to give reading assessments to all students in grades Kindergarten through Third Grade by September 30th.

As a result of those assessments, teachers must identify students as “ON TRACK” (meaning the student is reading at expected levels for the current grade level) or “NOT ON TRACK” (meaning the student is performing below expected levels for the current grade level).

School districts are required to notify parents of students identified as “NOT ON TRACK” with a letter after the assessments have been completed.

A plan for intervention and monitoring progress must also be completed by the school district throughout the school year.

Third grade students who do not score 392 or higher on the Ohio Achievement Assessment administered this April 2014 will not be promoted to fourth grade.

Reading assessments are not new. Our classroom teachers have already completed individualized student assessments, and they are using those results to plan for teaching and interventions to meet each child’s unique needs. GIA is providing a variety of intervention supports in reading. We believe that addressing reading concerns by increased reading is the best path to overall success.

Currently, your child has been identified as “Not on Track.” Your child's assessment has been attached to this letter.

We have already begun to engage in helping your child move toward being “On Track” with additional classroom instruction and/or reading intervention. I recognize that it may be a worry to think that your child is “Not on Track.”

Please DO NOT jump to the conclusion that “Not on Track” means that your child will not be successful in school. I have great confidence that with consistent intervention at school and support at home, we can help all of our students grow and succeed!

Currently we have scheduled your student for MANDATORY after- school tutoring for reading classes on Monday and Wednesday from 3:45 until 5pm. We have sent letters

home in the past regarding tutoring but it is necessary for your child to receive additional help in order to pass the Spring OAA test.

At GIA, we take our responsibility to support your child's learning very seriously, and we are grateful for your partnership in making sure that our students are well prepared for the OAA test in April 2014. In addition to the School's intervention and help with your child, please make sure that your child is reading for at least 30 minutes each night. It is important to have your child discuss what he or she has read to you. Reading comprehension and understanding is vital to your child's success. Please feel free to contact your Dr. Kolb and/or Ms. Morris with any questions or concerns that you might have.

Sincerely,

April Hart,  
Executive Director