

Literacy and Reading Comprehension Assessments

(Third Grade Literacy)

Reading readiness and literacy and reading comprehension shall be measured by an assessment instrument approved and identified by the State Board of Education. Additional assessments are encouraged and may be used at any time at the discretion of the teacher. An individual literacy plan shall be formulated for every student whose reading readiness or literacy and reading comprehension, as measured by the annual assessment, are below the level established by law. In the alternative, if the student is eligible, the student shall be enrolled in an intensive literacy program funded through the Read-to-Achieve Program.

The Board believes reading is the skill most closely associated with success in school. In accordance with this belief and state law, the district shall annually assess the reading readiness level of every kindergarten student and the literacy and reading comprehension level of every first, second and third grade student. This assessment may be done in conjunction with content standard assessments.

Any individual literacy plan developed under this policy shall be formulated by the teacher and school administration in conjunction with the student's parents/guardians. The plan shall include, but need not be limited to, the following:

1. Sufficient in-school instructional time to develop readiness, literacy and reading comprehension skills.
2. An agreement by the student's parents/guardians to implement a home reading program that supports and coordinates with the effort at school.
3. Placement, if necessary, of the student in a summer reading tutorial program.

Each semester, students in individual literacy plans or the intensive literacy program will be reassessed. The plan or program shall continue until the pupil is reading at or above grade level.

Except in the case of students with disabilities, the district shall not permit a student to pass from third grade to fourth grade for reading classes unless the assessment shows the student to be reading at or above level established by law.

The district shall annually report to the Colorado Department of Education:

1. The number and percentage of students enrolled in third grade in the school district who read at or above the third grade level.
2. The number and percentage of students enrolled in the school district who have an individual literacy plan.
3. The number and percentage of students enrolled in the school district who have increased their literacy and reading comprehension levels by two or more grades during one year of instruction.

Adopted: April 14, 1998

Revised: October 12, 2010

LEGAL REFS.: C.R.S.22-7-501 *et seq.* (*Colorado Basic Literacy Act*)

Swink School District #33, Swink, Colorado