

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING OUR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS BY REQUESTING THE TENNESSEE  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO AMEND T.C.A. 49-6-3115 TO ALLOW SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO MAKE  
RETENTION DECISIONS FOR THIRD-GRADE AND FOURTH-GRADE STUDENTS

WHEREAS, T.C.A. 49-6-3115 provides that a third-grade student who is not proficient in ELA as determined by the student achieving a performance level rating of "below" on the ELA portion of the student's most recent TCAP test may be promoted if:

- a. The student is an English language learner and has received less than two (2) years of ELA instruction;
- b. The student has an IEP that outlines deficiencies in reading;
- c. The student was previously retained in grade K through 3 prior to this year;
- d. The student attends a learning loss bridge camp, maintains a 90% attendance rate at the camp, and demonstrates adequate growth on the post-test; AND
- e. The student receives high-dosage, low ratio tutoring using the TN ALL Corps grant or an equivalent high-dosage, low ratio tutoring model for the entirety of fourth grade.

WHEREAS, T.C.A. 49-6-3115 provides that a third-grade student who is not proficient in ELA as determined by the student achieving a performance level rating of "approaching" on the ELA portion of the student's most recent TCAP test may be promoted if:

- a. The student is an English language learner and has received less than two (2) years of ELA instruction;
- b. The student has an IEP that outlines deficiencies in reading;
- c. The student was previously retained in grade K through 3 prior to this year;
- d. The student attends a learning loss bridge camp, maintains a 90% attendance rate at the camp, and demonstrates adequate growth on the post-test OR
- e. The student receives high-dosage, low ratio tutoring using the TN ALL Corps grant or an equivalent high-dosage, low ratio tutoring model for the entirety of the fourth grade.

WHEREAS, as student who is promoted to the fourth grade pursuant to this process must show adequate growth on the fourth grade ELA portion of the TCAP test, as determined by the Department of Education, before the student may be promoted to the fifth grade; and

WHEREAS, research has shown that retaining students may produce short-term positive outcomes but may in fact lead to more significant negative academic and non-academic outcomes in the long term; and  
NOW,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Giles County School Board of Education urges the General Assembly to amend T.C.A. 49-6-3115 to allow school districts to make retention decisions for third-grade and fourth-grade students, like all other grade levels, based upon all school district information on each student.

ADOPTED BY THE ELECTED GILES COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION, TENNESSEE,  
MEETING IN REGULAR SESSION ON THE 1st DAY OF September, 2022.

  
Knox Vanderpool, Chairman

9/1/22  
Date