

Austin Independent School District

Meria Joel Carstarphen, Ed.D.
Superintendent

August 19, 2009

Dear Parent:

The Texas Legislature made two specific changes to requirements for student promotion that you should be aware of:

1. Students are no longer required to pass the Reading Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) in order to be promoted from 3rd grade, however districts must consider several factors in determining whether students should be promoted to 4th grade:
 - a. the recommendation of the students' teacher,
 - b. the student's grade in each subject or course,
 - c. the student's score on the TAKS test, and
 - d. any other necessary academic information determined by the district.

The Austin school district currently includes all of these requirements in the district's promotion policy, which can be found on the district's web site.

2. Students who do not pass all of the TAKS tests required in 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, or 8th grade must attend any district-required accelerated instruction for the subject which he or she did not pass. The accelerated instruction may be before or after the school day or during the summer. A student who does not attend the required accelerated instruction may not be promoted to the next grade.

If you have questions, please contact your campus or the district Office of Curriculum and Instruction at 512- 414-9662.

Sincerely,

Meria Joel Carstarphen

MJC/as/cbb