

Dear Parents,

It is important to inform you of some significant changes to Arizona Revised Statutes regarding the promotion and retention of third grade students.

The newly revised law states that a student shall not be promoted from the third grade if the student obtains a score on the AIMS reading test that demonstrates he or she is **reading far below the third grade level**.

In accordance with the new law, a school district or governing board or the governing body of a charter school MAY choose to promote a pupil who earns an AIMS score that falls far below the third grade level for any of the following reasons:

1. The student has an identified disability and did not take the AIMS test.
2. The student has an identified disability and has previously been retained in a grade.
3. The student is an English Language Learner and has had less than two years of English instruction.
4. The student has a reading deficiency and has been previously retained twice in a grade.
5. The student has demonstrated reading proficiency on an alternate assessment approved by the State Board of Education.
6. The school district governing board or the governing body of a charter school accepts a parent's written request for an exemption that includes required documentation provided by the parent.

This newly revised statute (A.R.S.§ 15-701) can be accessed at the following website:

<http://www.azleg.gov/FormatDocument.asp?inDoc=/ars/15/00701.htm&Title=15&DocType=ARS>.

If you have questions or need additional information please contact Dan Schutten at dschutten@archwaytriviumeast.org.

Sincerely,

Dan Schutten

Assistant Headmaster