

Superintendent
Dave Allison, Ed.D.

GPS Governing Board

President

Lily Tram

Clerk

E. J. Anderson

Members

Staci Burk

Helen Hollands

Shane Stapley

January 9, 2012

Dear Kindergarten Parents:

During the 2010 Arizona legislative session, House Bill 2732 was passed. This bill requires school districts to retain students in third grade if they fall far below the established reading proficiency level for third grade. The Arizona Instrument to Measure Standards (AIMS) Reading Test or a successor test will be used to make this determination. While this requirement does not go into effect until the 2013-2014 school year, we are required to notify parents of this impending law.

This law includes many stipulations about parents' right to appeal and students who may be exempt from this requirement, such as students with limited English proficiency or a disability. This bill also includes obligations of the school for students who may be in danger of failing as a result of this new requirement.

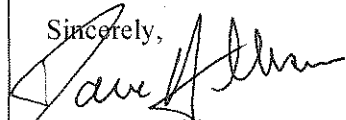
Gilbert Public Schools Policy JEB (Entrance Age Requirements) outlines admission criteria for kindergarten and first grade enrollment. Because AZ State law prohibits school districts from receiving funding for a student who repeats kindergarten, GPS Policy also stipulates a parent may elect to sign a waiver, not accepting the school team's promotion for their kindergarten child, re-enroll in kindergarten and pay tuition to GPS in accordance with a board-approved fee.

Gilbert Public Schools values a collaborative partnership between home and school. We have a solid literacy curriculum and assessment program. We incorporate a structured Response to Intervention (RTI) process, which enables us to provide additional student support to address specific reading deficiencies. Continuous progress monitoring is provided to ensure student success. Parents are kept informed of their child's progress throughout the school year.

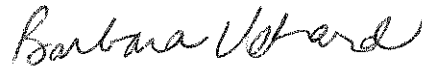
If you have questions or would like more information on this law the full document can be found online at <http://www.azleg.state.az.us>, or you may contact your child's principal.

As we move closer to the implementation date of the 2013-2014 school year, additional information will be provided.

Sincerely,



Dr. Dave Allison
Superintendent



Barbara VeNard
Assistant Superintendent