

Bibb County Public Schools 2017 Promotion Criteria

***Effective for Elementary and Middle School Students
for the 2016-2017 School Year***

Bibb County Vision



- *Each student demonstrates strength of character and is college or career ready.*

Purpose

- In July 2003 the state passed the Georgia Promotion, Placement, and Retention law which requires 3rd, 5th and 8th grade students to pass parts of the state assessment.
- In addition to successfully meeting promotion requirements, 3rd, 5th and 8th grade students must pass specific Milestones Tests in order to be promoted.
- The purpose of this meeting is to make sure students and parents are aware of the promotion requirements for students in grades 1-8.

Promotion Criteria for First Grade

GRADE 1: To be promoted to grade 2, a student must meet the following requirements:

- Earn a passing final grade in English/ Language Arts (70 and above).
- Earn a passing final grade in mathematics (70 and above).
- Must earn one of more “Meets” in science and social studies.
- Meet attendance requirements.

Promotion Criteria for Second Grade

GRADE 2: To be promoted to grade 3, a student must meet the following requirements:

- Earn a passing final grade in English/language arts (70 and above).
- Earn a passing final grade in mathematics (70 and above).
- Earn one or more “Meets” in science and social studies.
- Meet attendance requirements.

Promotion Criteria for Third Grade

GRADE 3: To be promoted to grade 4, a student must meet the following requirements:

- Earn a passing final grade in English/Language Arts (70 and above).
- Earn a passing final grade in mathematics (70 and above)
- Earn a passing final grade in science or social studies.
- Score “On/Above Grade Level” on the Georgia Milestones End-of-Grade Assessment in reading.
- Meet attendance requirements.

Promotion Criteria for Fourth Grade

GRADE 4: To be promoted to grade 5, a student must meet the following requirements:

- Earn a passing final grade in English/Language Arts (70 and above).
- Earn a passing final grade in mathematics (70 and above).
- Earn a passing final grade in science or social studies.
- Meet attendance requirements.

Promotion Criteria for Fifth Grade

GRADE 5: To be promoted to grade 6, a student must meet the following requirements:

- Earn a passing final grade in English/Language arts (70 and above).
- Earn a passing final grade in mathematics (70 and above).
- Earn a passing final grade in science or social studies.
- “On/Above Grade Level” on the Georgia Milestones End-of-Grade Assessment in reading.
- Earn an achievement level of “Developing Learner”, “Proficient Learner”, or “Distinguished Learner” on the mathematics section of the Georgia Milestones End-of-Grade Assessment.
- Meet attendance requirements.

Promotion Criteria for Sixth and Seventh Grade

- **GRADE 6 and 7:** To be promoted to grade 7 and grade 8, a student must meet the following requirements:
- Earn a passing final grade in English/Language arts (70 and above).
- Earn a passing final grade in mathematics (70 and above).
- Must not fail three or more other courses.
- Meet attendance requirements.

Promotion Criteria for Eighth Grade

GRADE 8: To be promoted to grade 9, a student must meet the following requirements:

- Earn a passing final grade in language arts (70 and above).
- Earn a passing final grade in mathematics (70 and above).
- May not fail three or more other courses.
- Earn “On/Above Grade Level” on the Georgia Milestones End-of-Grade Assessment in reading.
- Earn an achievement level of “Developing Learner”, “Proficient Learner”, or “Distinguished Learner” on the mathematics section of the Georgia Milestones End-of-Grade Assessment.
- Meet attendance requirements.

Milestones Administration

- Dates: April 10-25, 2017
- Attendance: Mandatory for all students in Grades 3-8
- Have to take the test to be considered for promotion
- Students must be at least “On Grade Level” for reading (3rd); at least “On Grade Level” for reading and “Developing Learner” for math (5th and 8th)
- No passing scores = retention; therefore, a student **must** take the Milestones Test
- Make-up testing days will be available for illnesses

School Intervention Plan

- To better meet the needs of all students, after testing every school will have a specific plan of intervention strategies for all students during the last 4 weeks of school.
- Remediation strategies will focus on the specific areas that a student needs to be successful at the next grade level.
- Acceleration strategies will focus on the key terms and concepts that students will be taught at the next grade level.
- Students will receive more targeted, focused, and individualized instruction with familiar staff.

Milestones Re-Test

- Students in Grades 3, 5, & 8 that need to take the Milestones Re-Test in reading and/or math will test in their home schools on ***May 18-25, 2017***.
- The Milestones Re-Test in ELA will be ***Thursday and Friday, May 18-19, 2017***.
- The Milestones Re-Test in math will be ***Monday and Tuesday, May 22-23, 2017***.
- The Milestones Re-Test Make-Ups will be ***Wednesday and Thursday, May 24-25, 2017***.
- Students must attend both days.
- The Milestones Re-Test scores are projected to be available in June so students will know if they are promoted or retained for the coming school year.

Summer Opportunity Program

- There will be a Bibb County Summer Opportunity Program for Students in Grades 3, 5, and 8 who are not successful on the Milestones Test (reading – 3rd grade, reading and math— 5th and 8th grade). ***The program will run from June 5th – June 29th .***
- ***All students who do not pass the 3rd grade reading/ 5th and 8th grade reading and math Milestones requirements must attend the Bibb County Summer Opportunity Program to be considered for promotion or administrative placement.***

Summer Opportunity Program

- If a student receives passing scores on the Milestones Re-Test, summer school requirements will be considered complete and the student will be promoted.
- If a student does not pass the Milestones Re-Test, he or she must complete the Summer Opportunity Program.
- Successful completion of the Summer Opportunity Program will result in consideration for a possible administrative placement.

Appeals Process per Georgia's Promotion, Placement, and Retention Law

- If a student does not pass the Milestones Re-Test, a parent, guardian, or teacher may appeal the decision to retain the student.
- The principal will schedule a meeting of the "placement committee," who is composed of the parent/guardian, principal (or designee) and one of the student's teachers.
- A decision to administratively place the student in the 4th, 6th, or 9th grade must be the unanimous decision of the placement committee and must be accompanied by a plan to assist the student's success in the next school year.
- This appeals process will take place in July following completion of the Bibb County Summer Opportunity Program.

What Ifs?

What if my child fails the Milestones for 3rd, 5th or 8th grade?

- After Milestones testing, students will receive 4 weeks of remediation in their area(s) of need.
- Students will be required to attend the Bibb County Summer Opportunity Program.
- The Milestones Re-Test will be administered to students in Grades 3, 5, & 8 ***May 18-25, 2017.***
- In late June, retest results will be mailed to parents. A student who meets the minimum criteria will then be promoted.

What Ifs?

What if my child still does not meet the minimum criteria on the Milestones Re-Test?

- Your child will be retained in Grade 3, 5, or 8 for the 2017-2018 school year.
- Your child will complete the Bibb County Summer Opportunity Program.
- An appeal process can be initiated to review the results of testing and 3rd/5th/8th grade performance.
- Placement in the next grade requires a unanimous vote of a committee.

What Ifs?

What if my child fails reading and/or math, but passes the Milestones?

- Bibb County will only offer the Bibb County Summer Opportunity Program for students in Grades 3, 5 and 8 who have not passed the Milestones; therefore, your child will be retained.

What Can You Do Now?

- Keep in close contact with your child's teacher if your child is making low grades in reading and/or math.
- Monitor your child's grades.
- Spend 20 minutes reading with your child each day and take turns reading.
- Ask your child questions about what was read: specific facts, comprehension and predictions.

What Else Can I Do?

- Review math facts and provide practical examples and problems.
- Ensure that homework is done nightly to reinforce concepts being taught in the classroom.
- Ask for additional work to help areas of weakness.
- Help your child be prepared to learn every day!
- Practice online test tools at <http://www.georgiaexperienceonline.com/>
- Find additional Parent Resources at: Testing.GADOE.Org – Under the Georgia Milestones Tab

And, to help your student approach testing in a relaxed positive way...

- Encourage your student to employ good study and test-taking skills. These skills include following directions carefully, avoiding careless errors, and reviewing work.
 - Explain the purpose of the test. The assessments give students an opportunity to show what they have learned in school. They also give teachers information that helps them plan instruction.
- Point out that some items may be more difficult than others.
 - Ask your student about the testing at the end of each day.