

# 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 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students to pass parts of the state assessment.
- In addition to successfully meeting promotion requirements, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> 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 (3<sup>rd</sup>); at least “On Grade Level” for reading and “Developing Learner” for math (5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>)
- 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 – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, reading and math— 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade). ***The program will run from June 5<sup>th</sup> – June 29<sup>th</sup> .***
- ***All students who do not pass the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade reading/ 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup>/5<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> 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.