



Gilmer County Charter Schools

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Gilmer County Charter School Parents/Guardians,

In accordance with state statutes and expectations, each academic year, the GCCSS participates in all required standardized, and norm based assessments. As Georgia has now transitioned to the Milestones measure, rather than the traditional CRCT (Criterion Referenced Competency Test) for students in grades 3-8, the Georgia State Department of Education has decided to forego utilizing this first assessment measure in terms of student Promotion, Placement, and Retention classification, and instead, has chosen to secure these results for baseline historical data to be utilized in school and educator performance rating(s).

Based on this same assessment transition, and the waiver issued by the State DOE, students that participate in EOC (End of Course) assessment measures in grades 8-12, will too, now be exempt from the utilization of their EOC score, contributing to/as 20% of their final course grade.

In response to this new state stipulation, student PPR (Promotion, Placement, and Retention) for academic year 2014-2015, will now be determined by the following criteria;

1. Students in Grade 3, to be promoted to Grade 4, will need to show course standard competency, in Reading and Math.
2. Students in Grade 5, to be promoted to Grade 6, will need to show course standard competency in, Reading and Math.
3. Students in Grade 8, to be promoted to Grade 9, will need to show course standard competency, in Reading, English/Language Arts, and Math.
4. Daily performance, as well as campus level benchmarking, will too be included in the final placement decision.
5. Promotion and graduation shall be based on meeting state and local requirements of units earned at each grade level for students in grades 9-12.

Daily classroom instruction will not change based on the assessment transition. High academic standards will still be required, and students will be asked to perform to the best of the capabilities on weekly assignments and on all academic measures they encounter. In lieu of state/EOC assessments, campuses may utilize Exams, to test student's cumulative knowledge and may be included in their final course average.

Specific questions may be directed to Gilmer County Charter School Assessment Director, Michele Penland, or you may visit the Georgia Department of Education Assessment web link: <http://www.gadoe.org/External-Affairs-and-Policy/Policy/Pages/Promotion-and-Retention.aspx>

In Service;
Jason R. Kouns

Superintendent

Every Child, Every Opportunity, Every Day!