



August 25, 2005

Dear Students and Parents:

Fourth and Fifth Grade Requirements

Beginning with the 2000-2001 school year, North Carolina public school students were required to meet new statewide standards for promotion. The standards, also called gateways, will ensure that students are working at grade level in reading, writing and mathematics before being promoted to the next grade. The fifth grade gateway includes a requirement for fourth graders. ***Fourth graders must demonstrate adequate progress in writing by scoring at or above proficiency level on the fourth grade writing assessment.***

In fifth grade, students must:

- Meet local promotion requirements
- Demonstrate grade-level proficiency by scoring at a Level III or above on state End-Of-Grade (EOG) tests in reading and mathematics
- Demonstrate adequate progress in writing by scoring at or above proficiency level on the fourth grade writing assessment.*

**Students who do not have this score will be given help to develop their writing skills. The principal and teachers of these students will use scored writing samples during the fifth grade to determine whether students have made adequate progress in order to be promoted to the sixth grade.*

It is essential that fourth grade students and their parents be aware of this requirement in order to be promoted to the sixth grade at the end of next year.

Principals and teachers will be available to answer your questions about the new standards. Please feel free to call on them for additional information. Finally, we ask that students and parents sign this letter as an indication that they have received notification of this change and return to your principal by

September 12, 2005 Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Anne G. Garrett
Superintendent

Student Signature

Date

Parent Signature