



Dear Parent/Guardian:

This year third graders in Georgia will be held to promotion standards as required by the Georgia State Board of Education and the Newton County Board of Education.

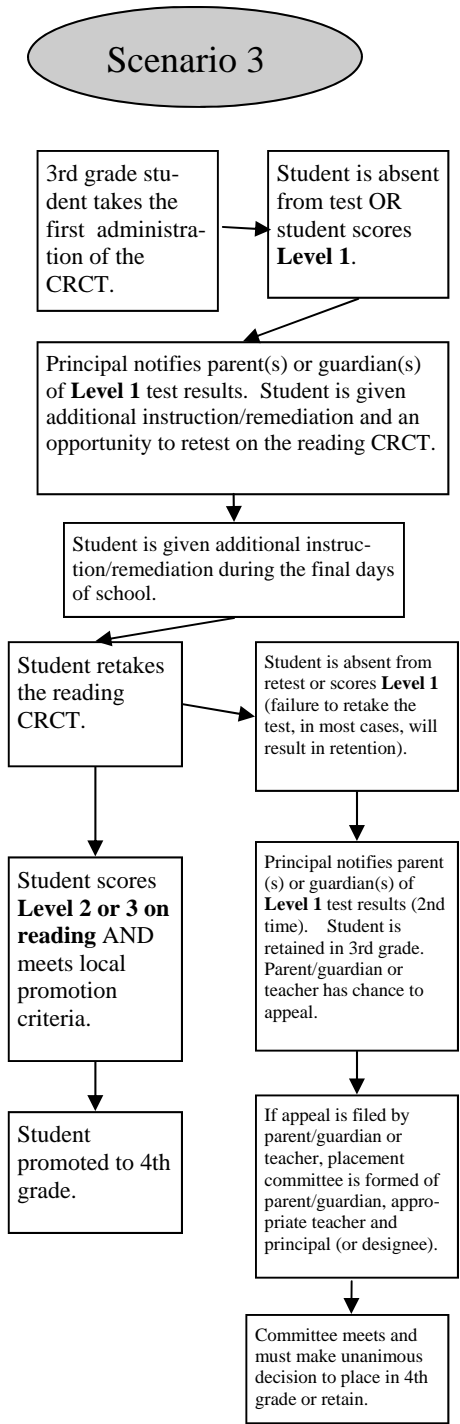
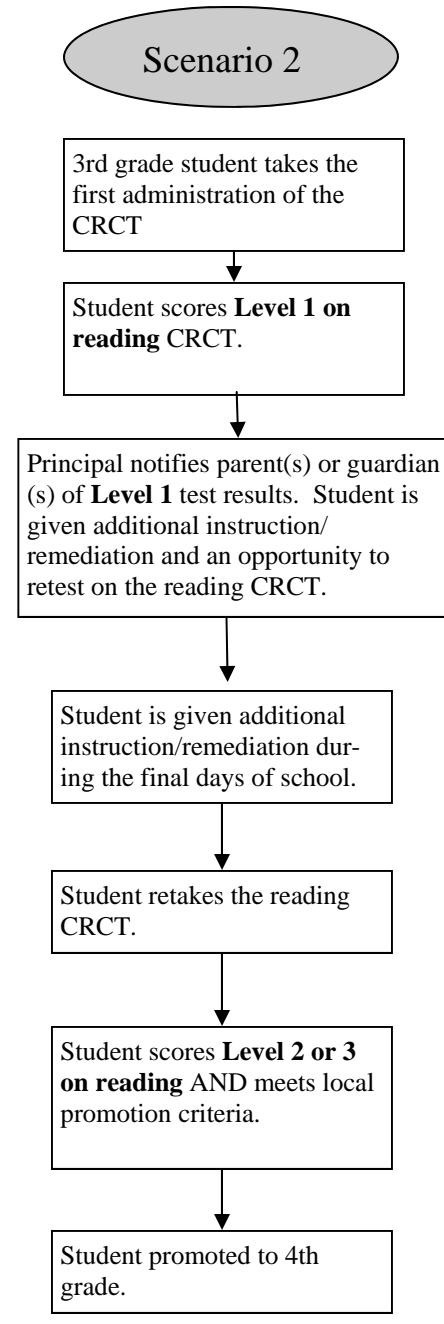
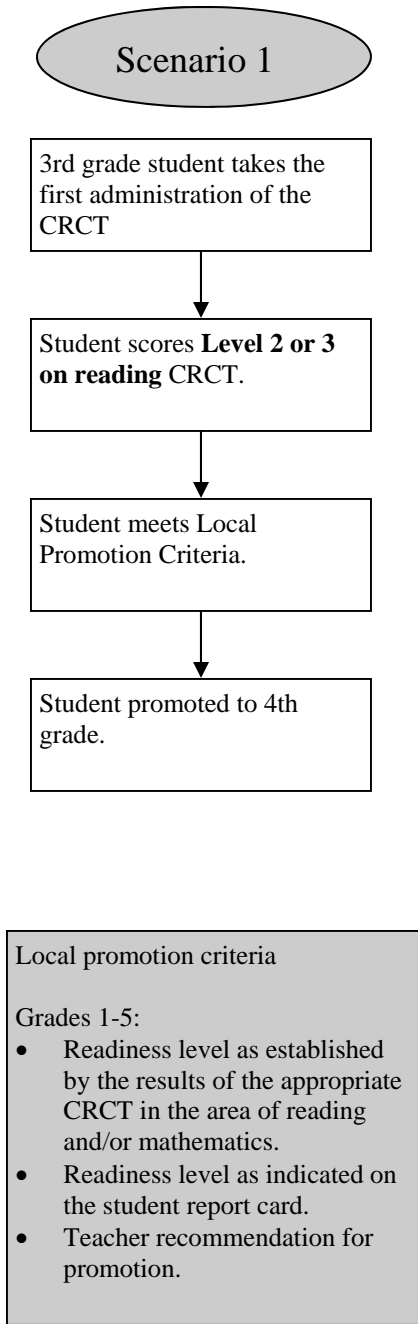
To help parents understand these standards, this brochure is being provided along with parent meetings at each school. Please make plans to attend the meetings when they are held at your child's school.

It is important for parents to understand the process of promotion. This brochure is designed to help parents understand test scores and how they affect promotion.

Please remain involved in your child's education and remain in close communication with your child's teacher. Remember that guidance counselors and other school professionals are available to help you understand how to best help your child.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact the principal at your child's school.

Thank you!



2012 CRCT Scores Critical for Third Graders

All students in grades three through eight will take the Criterion Referenced Competency Test (CRCT) this spring; but, for third graders, the test is a critical part of promotion to fourth grade. Georgia now requires that third graders pass the reading portion of the CRCT (score of Level 2 or 3) along with other grade level criteria to be promoted to fourth grade. Students who perform below grade level on the CRCT reading test (score of Level 1) or are absent from the administration of the test will be given the opportunity to participate in additional reading instruction in the final days of the school year, along with another chance to take the reading CRCT. If the student still performs below grade level, the student may be retained in third grade for the next school year. Parent(s) or guardian(s), and/or teacher(s) may appeal the decision to retain the student. The principal (or designee) will meet with parents or guardian and the student's teacher(s) to review the student's overall academic achievement. The group will then make a decision to place the student in fourth grade or retain the student in third grade. The promotion/retention policy also applies to fifth and eighth grade students.

What are staff members in the Newton County Schools doing to prepare students for success?

- Teachers have been trained and are required to implement sound, research-based strategies.
- The school system has taken steps to insure students have appropriate instructional materials including regular, remedial, and supplemental materials.
- There are supplementary teachers at some grade levels to work with at-risk students.
- Utilizing print and software materials, teachers provide test preparation activities.
- The Cognitive Abilities Tests are given to provide teachers and parents with data that can help identify students' strengths and weaknesses.
- Student Support Teams assist teachers with classroom modifications designed to meet a student's individual needs.



Achieving
the goal in
Grade 3



Ensuring Success for
Each Student

Performance Levels on the CRCT Tests

Subjects/Grades	Scale Score Range
Reading: grades 1-8 English/Language Arts: grades 1-8 Mathematics: grades 1-8 Science: grades 1-8 Social Studies: grades 1-8	650-950
Performance Levels: 1 - Does Not Meet Standard 2 - Meets Standard 3 - Exceeds Standard	Below 800 800-849 At or above 850

CRCT

It is important that you and your child understand these performance expectations.

If you have additional questions after reviewing this information, please contact your child's teacher or other school professional.

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