

August 28, 2018



HB 657 Special Education Services

Dear parent/guardian(s) of 5th and 8th grade students receiving special education services:

Your student will be affected by the State's Student Success Initiative requirements this academic school year. This legislation requires students to pass their Reading and Mathematics State Assessment to be promoted to the next grade level. This requirement includes up to two retests in order to give each student the opportunity to pass.

Students, who receive special education services and who fail to meet standards on the Reading or Mathematics assessment, will have an ARD Committee meeting conducted on their behalf **prior to the second** test administration. At this ARD, three options will be decided upon:

1. Will the student be required to take another test administration?
2. If the student will have subsequent retests waived, will the student be promoted based on the academic progress demonstrated in their Individual Education Plan or retained at their current grade level?
3. How will the student participate in an Accelerated Instruction Program in the subject area(s) in which state standards were not met?

HB 657— STAAR—Procedures for students enrolled in a special education program who fail to perform satisfactorily on certain assessment instruments. Takes effect immediately. The bill requires the ARD committee, for a student who does not pass the state assessment, to meet **before the second test administration.**

The ARD committee will have the option to promote the student to the next grade level if it concludes the student has made sufficient progress in the measurable goals in the student's IEP.

If the district promotes the student, per the ARD committee decision, the district is not required to provide an additional testing opportunity.

We hope that this will clarify the options available and help you prepare for important decisions that may need to be addressed as your child continues to pursue academic excellence. We are excited to work with you to ensure your child's needs are met as we continue to have high expectations for all students in our district.

If you have any questions, please contact your child's campus administrator.

**La Pryor Elem
Mr. De La Fuente
830-365-4009**

**La Pryor High School
Mrs. Lambert
830-365-4005**