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Dear Kindergarten and First Grade Parents:

During the 2010 Arizona legislative session, House Bill 2732 was passed which requires districts to retain students in third grade if they score at “Falls Far Below” on the Arizona Instrument to Measure Standards (AIMS) Reading Test or a successor test. While this requirement does not go into effect until school year 2013-2014, districts are required to notify the parents of this impending requirement. This allows parents who may have children in third grade in 2013-2014 and beyond sufficient notice of the potential for retention. This bill included many stipulations about parents’ right to appeal, students who may be exempt from this requirement and the obligations of the school for students who may be in danger of failing as a result of this rule. As we move closer to the implementation date (SY 2013-14), additional information will be provided.

Our district philosophy is one that values a collaborative partnership between home and school. We have a solid literacy curriculum, assessment process, and individual student support systems that are built into daily instruction. You will be kept informed of your child’s progress on a regular basis through your child’s classroom teacher.

If you have questions or would like more information on this law the full document can be found online at <http://www.azleg.state.az.us>, or you may contact your child’s principal.

Please watch for more information about the third grade retention legislation on the Higley Unified School District website at <http://www.husd.org>.

Sincerely,

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