

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The teachers and administrators at our school are committed to helping your child become a successful reader. As part of this commitment, our school uses a test called Acadience Reading® formerly known as DIBELS. We use this test to determine how your student is doing in learning important reading skills. The Acadience Reading test evaluates four skills that are necessary for learning to read. Children who learn these skills become good readers. The skills are:

- Phonemic Awareness: hearing and using sounds in spoken words
- Phonics: knowing the sounds of the letters and sounding out written words
- Accurate and Fluent Reading: reading stories and other materials easily and quickly with few mistakes
- Reading Comprehension: understanding what is read

Acadience Reading is made up of six short individual tests. Because each test focuses on a different reading skill, your child may be given two to four tests depending on his or her grade level. Each test takes approximately 1 minute because the tests are used only as indicators. Much like using a thermometer to take a child's temperature is an indicator of overall health, each test is an indicator of how well a child is doing in learning a particular early reading skill. The scores tell us whether a child is likely to be "on track" for learning to read or whether a child may need some help in learning important reading skills.

Acadience is administered in three testing windows. Beginning of Year (BOY), Middle of Year (MOY) and End of Year (EOY). We have completed the BOY test and your child's results indicate their progress in learning to read would benefit from additional individual instruction. Your child's teacher will incorporate the needed instruction for your child in order to facilitate the acquisition of the important reading skills. We are working hard to make sure every child is on target for success and we thank you for your efforts at home.