

May 10, 2016

The State Board of Education (SBOE) approved the request to waive SBOE Rule 160-4-2-.11 PROMOTION, PLACEMENT, AND RETENTION, sections (3)(a), (3)(b), and (3)(c), for the 2015-2016 school year for students in grades 3, 5, and 8. All students will receive scores from Milestones testing this year; however, those scores will **not** determine grade placement for students in grades 3, 5, and 8, regardless of mode of testing (paper-pencil or online).

Given scores will be slightly delayed, the state realized that some systems may not have time to offer retests; thus, the state is allowing individual systems to use local discretion in retesting students in grades 3, 5, and 8. In Toombs County, we are asking the principal/placement committee to use a body of evidence to determine grade placement for students who require a placement meeting and/or those who do not meet minimum requirements in ELA (3rd, 5th, and 8th grades) or math (5th and 8th grades).

Richard Smith, Superintendent for Toombs County Schools

Michelle Denmark, System Testing Coordinator for Toombs County Schools