

# Parent Informational Meeting

Blessing Elementary School

April 14, 2022



# What information will be shared?

1. **STAAR Performance Descriptors**
2. **The Power of Reading**
3. **Attendance Matters**
4. **Improving Communication at Home**
5. **Preventing “Summer Slide”**
6. **STAAR Letters**



# STAAR Performance Descriptors

**MASTERS:** Students are expected to succeed in the next grade level with little or no academic intervention.

**MEETS:** Students have a high likelihood of success in the next grade level but may require some short-term, targeted academic interventions.



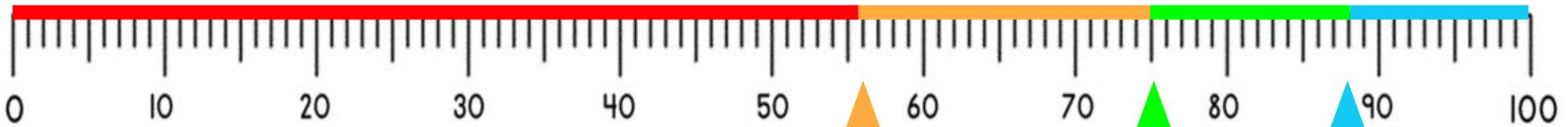
# STAAR Performance Descriptors

**APPROACHES:** Students are likely to succeed in the next grade level with targeted academic intervention.

**DID NOT MEET GRADE LEVEL:** Students are unlikely to succeed in the next grade level without significant, ongoing academic intervention. Students do not demonstrate a sufficient understanding of the knowledge and skills.



# STAAR Performance Descriptors



## WHAT DO THE SCORES MEAN?

 **MASTERS**  
ON TRACK TO BE COLLEGE READY

 **MEETS**  
ON GRADE LEVEL

 **APPROACHES**  
PASSING + CLOSE TO GRADE LEVEL

 **DID NOT MEET**  
CLOSE TO PASSING + BELOW GRADE LEVEL



# WHY READ 20 MINUTES AT HOME?

Student A Reads	Student B Reads	Student C Reads
❖ 20 minutes per day.	❖ 5 minutes per day.	❖ 1 minute per day
❖ 3,600 minutes per school year.	❖ 900 minutes per school year.	❖ 180 minutes per school year.
❖ 1,800,000 words per year.	❖ 282,000 words per year.	❖ 8,000 words per year.
		
❖ Scores in the 90 <sup>th</sup> percentile on standardized tests.	❖ Scores in the 50 <sup>th</sup> percentile on standardized tests.	❖ Scores in the 10 <sup>th</sup> percentile on standardized tests.

If they start reading for 20 minutes per night in Kindergarten, by the end of 6<sup>th</sup> grade, Student A will have read for the equivalent of 60 school days, Student B will have read for 12 school days, and Student C will have read for 3.

(Gray and Ferran, 1992.)

**WANT TO BE A BETTER READER? SIMPLY READ.**



# MY TEXAS PUBLIC SCHOOL

MYTEXASPUBLICSCHOOL.ORG



- **Compulsory attendance letters are sent out when a student has 10 or more unexcused absences. Absences include “days” and “parts of days.”**
- **Attendance Meetings are scheduled with the Principal, and Truancy Prevention Measures are discussed.**
- **Parents may be charged or fined if their child continues to miss school.**
- **Students must be present 90% of days to be promoted to the next grade level.**



# Communicating at Home

**Tired of getting one-word answers from your kids about their day? Try this fun activity!**

- 1. Cut strips or pieces of paper.**
- 2. Write down a variety of questions - 1 question per paper/slip.**
- 3. Place the questions into a baggie or envelope.**
- 4. Randomly draw one, and let the conversation begin!**

**Try picking a few to discuss on car rides, over dinner, or each evening before bedtime. You'll definitely learn something new!**



# Examples of Conversation Starters

1. What was the best part of your day?
2. What was the worst part of your day?
3. What makes a good friend?
4. If you could have any superpower in the world, what would it be and why?
5. What's something you're really good at?
6. Describe yourself using 3 words.
7. If you could travel anywhere in the world, where would you go?
8. If you had a million dollars, what would you spend it on?
9. What's your favorite season? Why?
10. If you could only keep one of your toys, what would it be?



# Preventing "Summer Slide"

“Summer Slide” is the tendency for kids to forget reading and other skills they learned in school during the summer. **Children can lose a whole grade-level's worth of skills in the summer**, requiring them to put in extra time in the fall to catch up with their peers at school!



# What can parents do about it?

**Keep your children engaged in learning, and get them involved in educational programs and activities during the summer months.**

- **Have your children make a summer reading pledge through the Scholastic Summer Reading Program.**
- **Research shows that reading just six books during the summer may keep a struggling reader from regressing. When choosing the six, be sure that they are just right — not too hard and not too easy. Take advantage of the Blessing Library. Ask for help selecting books that match your child's age, interests, and abilities.**



# Scholastic Summer Reading Program

<https://www.scholastic.com/site/summer/home.html>

## A Fun, Free and Safe Program for Kids

From Monday, April 26 to Friday, September 3 kids can participate in the **Scholastic Summer Reading Program** where they will be encouraged to read, celebrate their achievements and help increase access to books for their peers.



### Join *Home Base*

By creating an account on *Home Base*, kids can join a community of readers and will be able to read books and stories; attend weekly author events; interact with their favorite characters; play book-based games and activities; join dance parties; and more!



### Keep a Reading Streak™

Kids will be able to track their summer reading by maintaining a Reading Streak in *Home Base*. The longer a child extends their reading streak, the more digital experiences they earn! Kids can read any book of their choice and download and print a report of their reading progress at any time.



### Help Donate Books

By keeping reading streaks in *Home Base*, kids will unlock a donation of 100,000 books from Scholastic to Save the Children for kids in rural America with limited or no access to books.



# What else can parents do about it?

- Get your child to take the Summer Math Challenge from MetaMetrics. You'll get daily emails with fun math activities and resources.
- Create and play math games and activities with dominoes and playing cards. (Here are some examples: <https://www.weareteachers.com/math-card-games/>)
- Journaling can be a useful way for kids to practice writing.
- Look into your local youth-serving organizations such as 4-H or Scouts.
- Explore the local library's summer programs (Blessing and Bay City).
- Visit local museums, and parks and recreation departments to find out about their free or low-cost summer programs for kids.



# MetaMetrics Summer Math Challenge

<https://hub.lexile.com/summer-math-challenge>

## DASHBOARD PREVIEW

### SUMMER OVERVIEW

	M	Tu	W	Th	F
WEEK 1 MULTIPLICATION FACTS	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
WEEK 2 ADVANCED MULTIPLICATION	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
WEEK 3 FRACTIONS	✓	✓	+x	+x	🎮
WEEK 4 COMPARE AND ORDER FRACTIONS	+x	+x	+x	+x	🎮
WEEK 5 FINDING AREA	+x	+x	+x	+x	🎮
WEEK 6 MEASURING CAPACITY, WEIGHT, AND LENGTH	+x	+x	+x	+x	🎮

### WEEKLY ACTIVITY

Download Certificate



# STAAR Letters

Parents of students in grades 3-5 will have the opportunity to write a letter of encouragement to their student.

Write your letter on the provided paper, and seal it in the envelope with their homeroom teacher's name on it.

We will give your letter to your student on their first day of STAAR testing in May.

*(We will send this home for parents who are unable to attend today's meeting.)*



**Thank you for making  
this event a success!**

*Questions?*

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