

# WESTERN NEWS

October 2016

## Important Dates

- Oct. 4:** Fall School Pictures
- Oct. 4:** PTO Meeting @ Western starting at 7:00 pm
- Oct. 13:** Recycle Day
- Oct. 17-21:** Book Fair
- Oct. 17-21:** Student/Parent Lunch Week
- Oct. 19:** Book Fair Extended Evening Hours from 4:00-7:00 pm
- Oct. 25:** Early Release @ 2:15 pm
- Oct. 28:** End of the 1st-Nine Weeks
- Oct. 28:** Fall Party and Costume Parade @ 2:15 pm

## INTERIM REPORTS AND GRADE CARDS...

This report will give you an idea of the progress of your child in school. Our goal is the same as yours—to provide each child with the opportunity to grow and develop to the fullest extent possible. Your child will receive a standards-based (grade level goals) interim and report card that uses a M, P, and L reporting system that monitors student growth in addition to the letter grades you are accustomed to seeing.

The letter explanations are as follows:

**M** = Meeting grade level expectations

**P** = Progressing toward grade level expectations with assistance

**L** = Limited skills, frequent support needed

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I just wanted to take the time to review the Interims Policy we hold at Western Elementary. Therefore, only students who have a "D" or "F" in a subject will be receiving a paper interim.

All parents are given access to ProgressBook/GradeBook, which gives you instant and continuous access to your son or daughter's grades. Our encouragement and simple expectation is that you will continue to monitor your child's grades and progress through this outlet. Please also note that Login Information is only sent home with NEW students. Please continue to utilize the login information you have had in the past.

If at any time, you would like a printed version of your child's grades and are unable to access the internet, please contact the office or your child's teacher and we will surely provide you with a copy. Our goal is not to inconvenience anyone, we are simply attempting to conserve our paper use and encourage everyone to utilize the system that is in place.

I also want to encourage parents to signup for the text alert system that the district uses for emergency purposes and notification of calamity days. If you would like to signup for these alerts, please, visit [www.lexington.k12.oh.us](http://www.lexington.k12.oh.us) and click on the parent/student drop down box and click on the text alert. Directions for how to signup are located here. Please, note that you will need to check the district Lexington Local Schools box and the Western Elementary box.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please feel free to contact me with any additional questions or concerns.

In service to children,  
Genelle Eggerton



# GRADES K-3



## Identifying students as “Not on Track”

is required by the State Third Grade Reading Guarantee (TGRG). Should you receive a letter identifying your child as being “Not on Track”, I encourage you to contact your child’s teacher and/or principal for a more detailed summary of what our assessments indicate to be areas for improvement. We will immediately engage in helping your child move towards being “On Track” with additional classroom instruction and/or reading intervention. I recognize that it may be a worry to think that your child is “Not on Track” after being in his/her new grade level for a few days. **Do not jump to the conclusion that “Not on Track” status, based upon initial assessments on the first days of school, means that your child will not be successful in school.** I have great confidence that with good teaching and support, we can help all of our students grow to succeed!

## Dear Parents:

Governor John Kasich signed Senate Bill 316 into law and Senate Bill 316 includes changes and reforms that directly affect elementary schools throughout the State of Ohio:

Districts are required to conduct reading assessments on all students in grades First through Third Grade by September 30 and Kindergarten by November 1.

As a result of those assessments, teachers must identify students as “On Track”, meaning that their performance is meeting expectations for students entering the current grade level, or “Not on Track”, meaning that their performance is not meeting expectations for the grade level to which they are entering.

School districts are required to notify parents of students identified as “Not on Track” with a letter following the completion of the reading assessment process. A plan for student intervention and monitoring growth and progress must be developed and updated throughout the year.

Part of the TGRG states that if third grade students do not reach the State determined success mark on the AIR reading assessment, the student will not be able to be promoted to

fourth grade. However, the State has not determined the cut score for the AIR reading assessment yet. Once the State determines these levels, I will notify third grade parents of these guidelines.

At Western Elementary School, diagnostic assessments are not new. Our classroom teachers already complete individualized student assessments during the school year and use the results of those assessments to plan for teaching and design interventions to meet each child’s unique needs. Our school has always provided a variety of intervention supports in reading. We believe that addressing reading concerns early is the best path to overall student success. We take the responsibility to support your child’s learning very seriously, and we are grateful for your partnership in making sure that our students are well prepared not only for assessments now, but also for their success in college, careers, and the workplace beyond K-12 schooling.

Please, feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns that you might have about the legislation and its requirements.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Eggerton

