

**ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION RESOLUTION  
ESTABLISHING A CUT SCORE FOR THE LOWEST LEVEL IN  
READING FOR THE ALABAMA COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT  
PROGRAM (ACAP)**

**WHEREAS**, the Alabama State Board of Education supports increasing student achievement, including an emphasis on reading in the early grades, as witnessed by its continued commitment to high quality reading instruction, assessment, and professional development; and

**WHEREAS**, the *Alabama Literacy Act* specifically provides, in part,

“(h) [As amended by Act 2022-391] Commencing with the 2023-2024 school year, third grade students shall demonstrate sufficient reading skills for promotion to fourth grade. Students shall be provided all of the following options to demonstrate sufficient reading skills for promotion to fourth grade, and the State Superintendent of Education shall provide guidelines for the implementation of this subsection:

(1) Scoring above the lowest achievement level, as determined by rule of the State Board of Education, on a board-approved assessment in reading as provided in Section 16-6G-3.

(2) Earning an acceptable score on an alternative standardized reading assessment as determined and approved by the State Superintendent of Education.

(3) Demonstrating mastery of third grade minimum essential state reading standards as evidenced by a student reading portfolio. The State Superintendent of Education and the task force established under subsection (a) of Section 16-6G-3 shall establish criteria for minimum essential standards and the student reading portfolios and a definition of what constitutes mastery of all third grade state reading standards.

(i) If a student does not demonstrate sufficient reading skills on one of the three options listed in subsection (h) and does not qualify for a good cause exemption, the student may not be promoted to fourth grade.” *Section 16-6G-5, Code of Alabama (1975)*:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Alabama State Board of Education establishes that for purposes of promotion to fourth grade under provisions of the *Alabama Literacy Act*, the lowest achievement level for the reading subset of the ACAP English Language Arts will include any and all raw scores below 435; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Alabama State Board of Education intends to review this lowest achievement level in the summer of 2024 and on a regular basis thereafter, following future administrations of the statewide English Language Arts reading assessment and reserves the right to make amendments as deemed necessary by the Board.

Done this 14th day of September 2023