

First Grade Parent Notification Letter  
(school letterhead)

June, 2016

Dear Parent/Guardian of \_\_\_\_\_:

Becoming a proficient reader is essential to success in school, so reading instruction is our highest priority at [---INSERT SCHOOL NAME---] Elementary School. Our teachers monitor each student's reading achievement regularly and provide instruction to meet the needs of each student. Our goal is for all students to become proficient readers and writers.

In first grade, the Benchmark Assessment System, an individually-administered assessment, is used to determine reading achievement. Students meeting grade level expectations should be reading at instructional text level J at the end of first grade to be considered on track to becoming proficient readers. Your child's spring assessment results are recorded in the chart below:

Assessment	Assessment Results
Benchmark Assessment System	<input type="checkbox"/> Exceeds expectations <input type="checkbox"/> Meets expectations <input type="checkbox"/> Partially meets expectations <input type="checkbox"/> Does not meet expectations

At this time, your child has / has not met the criteria to be considered on track for achieving reading proficiency. You are encouraged to check out Summer SOAR (SoWashCo Online Academic Resource) as an opportunity for additional reading or math support, offered through District 833 Community Education at [www.cecool.com](http://www.cecool.com).

All children will benefit from additional reading and writing practice at home. Research shows that children can lose as much as three months of growth if they don't read regularly over the summer. Here are some ways you can support your child's reading and writing development:

- Visit the local library regularly.
- Help your children choose interesting, enjoyable books that won't be frustrating.
- Read to and with your children. Read favorite books again and again!
- Talk with your children about books they are reading.
- Encourage your child to write: make lists, write notes, record experiences in a journal.
- Build background knowledge and vocabulary by talking about new experiences.

For more information about the District 833 Local Literacy Plan, visit [www.sowashco.org](http://www.sowashco.org). Together we can help all students to become successful readers and writers!

Sincerely,

Principal signature