

# Accountability Act

## Requires more parent involvement

Parents of students who perform below grade-level in grades 3-8 must meet with school officials to create a student academic plan.

## Requires academic plan for students below grade-level

Parents, students and school officials will create an academic plan to help students get ready for the tougher state tests.

## Creates tougher state tests

The Palmetto Achievement Challenge Tests (PACT) test basic skills and higher level skills at every grade level.

## Requires summer school or retention

Students who don't meet standard on the PACT test may be required to attend summer school or repeat a grade.

## Requires PSAT

All students in 10th grade must take the PSAT.

## Accountability Act requires more parent involvement

The requirements of the state accountability act mean that more than ever, parents need to be very involved in helping their children.

“We’re working hard to be sure our schools do all they can to prepare students for the tougher standards and tests the act mandates,” superintendent Gene Moore said, “but we know getting students ready for these standards means an even greater partnership between parents and schools. In fact, the act requires it.”

Schools must identify students in danger of not meeting state standards. School officials must meet with the parents of each child to create an academic plan that outlines what the school, the student and the parent will do to help the child.

“This fall, we’ll meet individually with hundreds of parents to talk about what their children need and how we all can work to help meet those needs,” Moore said. “We see it as a great opportunity to work with parents to help our students reach their full potential.”

Moore also wants to make sure parents understand how much emphasis the accountability act places on students’ doing well on the spring state tests, which are much tougher than the previous state tests.

The act requires that a student in grades 3-8 who doesn’t meet standard on the tests be provided academic assistance in summer school or other appropriate programs. In some cases, students may be retained.