February 2016

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Jordan School District is dedicated to the success of every student and appreciates working with you as a partner in this endeavor. In reading, we use a variety of common assessments to identify individual needs and monitor progress.

Utah State Senate Bill 150 requires schools to assess students three times per school year (fall, winter, & spring) and inform first, second, and third grade parents/guardians of whether or not their child is reading on grade level.

The tool we use is called DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills). DIBELS are measures that help teachers and schools determine how students are performing on foundational reading skills. DIBELS tests are “indicators” of the student’s overall reading proficiency. Just like using a thermometer to take your child’s temperature, which provides a quick indicator of your child’s general health. A school can quickly identify students who do not meet the benchmark goals on each DIBELS measure and provide extra support as needed.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that, based on mid-year benchmark data, your child is not reading on grade level, but progress is being made.

We are committed to helping your child achieve their goal in reading grade level material by providing additional support that is targeted to meet their individual needs.

These supports may include one or more of the following strategies:

* Re-teaching with grade-level materials
* Additional small-group instruction, using best practices and materials that are proven successful with struggling readers
* Tutoring individual students

For resources on how to support your child at home, you can visit <http://www.uen.org/parents/>. We look forward to working with you, as a team, in order to improve your child’s reading skills. We encourage you to talk with your child’s teacher about any questions or concerns you may have. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,