

Students

SUBJECT: Promotion and Retention

It is essential that each child experience both challenge and success from school activities. Grade placement should enhance this possibility. The concept of grade placements is based on the premise that each teacher will provide appropriate experiences for children at particular stages of physical, emotional and academic growth.

Promotion or retention of a student will be considered according to the following criteria:

1. Academic achievement will be compared to state and district curriculum guides.
2. Retention will be considered as opportunity for the success of the student. Experiences provided during the period of retention will be beneficial to the student's academic growth.
3. All recommendations concerning grade placement must be made after consultation with the Principal, parents and the instructor. Emphasis will be made on the importance of success.
4. Authority and great weight will be placed on the decision of the principal according to policy.

Elementary School (Grades K through 5)

No child will be retained more than once in grades K-3.

No student will be retained more than once in grades 4-5.

The Superintendent will determine criteria to be used for decisions regarding the promotion, retention, or acceleration of a student in elementary school.

Middle School (Grades 6 through 8)

A student failing two or more major courses in grades 6, 7, or 8 must successfully complete a summer school program (if offered) before being promoted to the next grade level. (Major courses include language arts, math, science, and social studies.) Such factors as academic, social and emotional needs, physical abilities, age maturity, and probability of success may be taken into account before a final decision is made for retention or promotion.

No child will be retained more than twice in grades 6 through 8, but the cumulative number of times retained in grades K through 8 cannot be more than 3.

No child can be retained more than once in the same grade.

High School (grades 9 through 12)

To be promoted to the next level, a student must satisfactorily complete a minimum number of credits. (A credit is granted for a full-year course scheduled daily, or the equivalent).

All students must meet the following requirements for promotion:

1. 9th grade – Must be taking at least five (5) credits, including English.
2. 10th grade – Must have earned five credits, one (1) of which must be English.
3. 11th grade – Must have earned ten (10) credits, two (2) of which must be English.
4. 12th grade – Must have earned fifteen (15) credits, three (3) of which must be English **and the student must have taken the Algebra and English Regents.**

Please note that there may be exceptions for some students with Individual Education Plans (IEPs).

Criteria for Non-Promotions

For students who may be recommended for retention (grades K-5) or failure of a course (grades 6-12) which could lead to retention:

1. Each school must diagnose the student and/or provide remedial instruction to those in need of it. The student's responsibility is to participate in remedial instruction.
2. Where there continues to exist any question as to the promotion of a student, the teacher must consult with the building principal and pupil personnel staff.
3. If the possibility of non-promotion continues to exist, the teacher must conference with the parents about this possibility. Parental attitudes and concerns should be taken into consideration and documentation of parental contacts should be in the student's file.
4. The pupil personnel staff and teacher should continue to review the student's progress through the remaining part of the year. The building principal, pupil personnel staff, and the teacher should conference during the latter part of the year to make a final decision.
5. If a decision for non-promotion is made, the parent and child must be notified of the decision by written documentation within ten days of the decision being made. A conference must be called at this time for parties involved to discuss an alternative program for the child.