

Promotion, Retention and Acceleration of Students

Teachers shall not promote, demote or exclude any student from their classrooms during the school year without the principal and superintendent's permission.

Elementary school

Students may be retained in the same grade for a second year if they have not reached a level of achievement which would allow them to progress satisfactorily in the next grade. Retention may be utilized for a student who is not sufficiently mature socially, emotionally, mentally or physically.

As soon as it becomes apparent to the classroom teacher that a student may be considered for retention, a meeting with the principal, special education teachers and counselor will be convened to discuss the case. Parents shall be advised of the classroom teacher's concerns as soon as possible. By the end of the third marking period, a formal meeting will be held to discuss the student's future planning. Parental support is imperative in this process.

Where there remains a question about retention at the end of the school year, a final decision may not be made until the end of the summer following a course of contingency remediation.

Double promotion or skipping of grades is not recommended, although it may be used in unusual cases, and then only with the approval of the teacher(s), principal, superintendent and parents.

Middle school

Students who pass all subjects for the entire year with a grade of "D" or better in all subjects except one shall automatically be promoted unless the parents, teachers, principal and superintendent agree on retention.

Prior to the start of the last marking period, parents of students in danger of failing one or more subjects for the semester will be notified and copies of the notice forwarded to the counselor. If there is a possibility that the student will be retained, the parents shall be contacted.

If students are failing two or more subjects for the year, at the end of school discussions among the teachers, parents, principal and superintendent shall be held to determine the advisability of retention or promotion.

Factors to be considered shall be:

1. Achievement during the year
2. Effort and attitude
3. Effect of retention or promotion on the student's mental health
4. Social maturity, physical development and age
5. Probable learning rate
6. Health
7. Home environment
8. Other pertinent facts

Failed subjects may be made up if the student is tutored. The final decision on promotion or retention shall be the responsibility of the teacher.

Adopted September 29, 1994