

PROMOTION AND RETENTION

The Board of Education recognizes that each child develops and grows in a unique pattern and that pupils should be placed in the educational setting most appropriate to their social, physical, and educational needs. Each pupil enrolled in this district shall be moved forward in a continuous program of learning in harmony with his or her own development.

Standards for pupil promotion shall be related to district goals and objectives and to the accomplishments of pupils. A pupil in the elementary grades will be promoted to the next succeeding grade level when he or she has completed the course requirements at the presently assigned grade; has achieved the instructional objectives set for the present grade; has demonstrated the proficiencies required for movement into the educational program of the next grade; and has demonstrated the degree of social, emotional, and physical maturation necessary for a successful learning experience in the next grade. A seventh or eighth grade pupil will be promoted to the next grade when he or she has completed, in the current school year, eleven course credits.

Promotion standards will be announced to parents and pupils at the beginning of each school year and course of study. Parents and pupils shall be regularly informed during the school year of the pupil's progress toward meeting promotion standards. A teacher who determines that a pupil's progress may not be sufficient to meet promotion standards shall notify the parent and the pupil and offer immediate consultation to the pupil's parent. Every effort shall be made to remediate a pupil's deficiencies before retention is recommended. The parent and, where appropriate, the pupil shall be notified of the possibility of the pupil's retention at grade level in advance.

School attendance shall be a factor in the determination of a pupil's promotion or retention. Only extenuating circumstances should permit the promotion of pupil who has been in attendance fewer than one hundred twenty days during the school year.

Classroom teachers shall recommend to the building principal the promotion or retention of each pupil. Parents and adult pupils may appeal a promotion or retention decision to the principal, whose decision shall be final.

The Superintendent shall distribute this policy to all parents and all pupils in grade kindergarten and higher at the beginning of each school year and shall invite their participation, along with the participation of teachers, in the development of revisions of the policy.

N.J.S.A. 18A:4-24; 18A:35-4.9

N.J.A.C. 6:8-7.1

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