

PROMOTION AND RETENTION OF STUDENTS

It is the philosophy of Platte County School District One that grade-level academic proficiency be the main factor for students to be promoted to the next level for the benefit of their future success.

In general, the District shall promote pupils only at the end of the school year. There shall, however, be an administrative procedure permitting possible promotion at other times, other than at the end of the school year that includes a review of 1) parent request, 2) student performance data, and 3) review of the student's social and emotional capacity.

A child may be retained if s/he has not reached a standard of achievement which would allow him/her to progress satisfactorily to the next grade level or class or is not sufficiently mature socially, emotionally, mentally, or physically. The final decision shall be made by the school personnel concerned after consultation with the parents. As far as possible, necessary retention shall be accomplished before the child leaves the primary grades. Whenever it is advisable, the child shall be assigned to a different teacher for the second year in the grade. No more than two years in one grade shall be permitted.

Retention of any pupil in kindergarten through 12th grade shall be the ultimate decision of the campus principal after a complete review of each student by the teacher(s), guidance counselor, and in consultation with parents/guardians.

Considerations of retention must be clearly communicated to parents of the student, as early as possible in the school year. When a student is being considered for retention, a plan for additional academic interventions to promote the student's academic success will be developed and implemented when possible as well as revisited by the campus principal.

The school district's educational program will provide for the continuous progress of students from grade to grade through meeting specific District standards of achievement which are determined at each level. In deciding which students would benefit from a repeated year, the following considerations will be made:

- a. Chronic absenteeism, absent more than 10% of total school days; this can be calculated by semester at the high school level as high school student receive credit on a semester basis.
- b. Below grade level classroom performance in language arts, math, science, or social studies
- c. District and State assessments
- d. Social and emotional skill development

Input for the final decision will be gathered from the teacher(s), staff, parents, and student, when appropriate. The group will consider the best interest of the student and make recommendations based on that consideration. However, the final decision of retention shall be made by the Principal. If a student has an Individualized Education Plan (IEP), the decision regarding grade placement will be made by the IEP team for that student. Parental consent is not necessary for retention of a student.

A parent in disagreement with the decision of grade placement may appeal the principal's decision through the due process policy (JFA). Summer school can be an alternative option for students with academic insufficiencies based on the recommendation of the principal. At the conclusion of each case considered for retention, a final report shall be prepared by the principal including the following:

- a. Final disposition of grade placement consideration.
- b. Recommendations for future academic interventions or actions that would contribute to future student success and be shared with future educational personnel.

Students who have reached an acceptable standard of achievement, and demonstrated an appropriate level of social, emotional, mental maturity and ability shall be promoted at the end of the school year to the succeeding grade.

CROSS REF.: JECD, Assignment of Students to Classes

First Reading: January 21, 2019

Second Reading: February 18, 2019