

Deer Mt Judea Gifted and Talented Program

Acceleration or Flexible Progression

PROCEDURE FOR ACCELERATING STUDENTS WITHIN THE DEER MT JUDEA SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Deer Mt Judea School District recognizes a need for educational alternatives for students who demonstrate advanced academic achievement. The purpose of acceleration is to place students at the level of their demonstrated competence. There are two types of acceleration that may be appropriate for academically talented students. One is vertical acceleration in which a student moves through the regular curriculum sequence at an advanced pace. The second is horizontal acceleration in which the depth and breadth of a curricular area is explored in more detail.

The following procedures will be followed in deciding either the grade or subject acceleration of a student:

- 1. A student may be referred for grade, subject, or course sequence acceleration by a teacher, any other school district professional, or parent/ guardian by using the District Acceleration Form.**
- 2. Decisions regarding acceleration of students will be handled through placement committee process.**
- 3. Appropriate challenges within the classroom structure will be used as the first alternative in the development of a student's acceleration plan.**
- 4. An evaluation of the student's potential to benefit from subject acceleration or advanced grade placement shall be required. Pertinent data, staff observations, and documented academic performance will be considered in the decision concerning acceleration. To be considered for acceleration, the student should meet the following criteria.**

- a. **Based on an evaluation interviews with the students, parents, and appropriate staff, it is concluded that indicates a desire to be accelerated.**
 - b. **Based on interviews with the students, parents, and appropriate staff, it is concluded that the socio-emotional maturity of the student is at a level where acceleration is desirable.**
 - c. **Demonstrated exceptional achievement levels in class work as evidenced by at least one of the following:**
 - 95th percentile on the Augmented Benchmark
 - Advanced performance on the Arkansas Benchmark exam
 - Portfolio assessment indicative of exceptional above grade level work
5. **A conference will be held with the student's parents/guardians, the student, teacher and the gifted and talented program coordinator to recommend appropriate placement. The building principal will decide if the placement decision is appropriate. The principal's decision may be appealed to the Superintendent.**
6. **If the student will be advancing to a different level from one school to another, elementary to middle/junior high, administration and counseling staff of both schools with both involved in the planning process. The receiving teacher will conduct an ongoing evaluation.**
7. **All grade, subject, or course acceleration decisions shall be made on a trial basis based on the report card grading schedule. In the case of grade acceleration, a meeting of the placement committee will be held to review the student's progress. At the end of a three month trial period, the receiving teacher will assess the student's progress to ensure that the proper placement has been made. If academic or adjustment difficulties occur, the committee will reconvene to determine appropriate placement.**

DEER MT JUDEA SCHOOL DISTRICT ACCELERATION REQUEST

STUDENT'S NAME _____

DATE: _____

SCHOOL: _____

PERSON MAKING REQUEST _____

RELATIONSHIP TO STUDENT _____

REASON FOR REQUEST, INCLUDING EVIDENCE OF NEED

Signature of Person Making Request

_____ I hereby give my permission for the Deer Mt Judea School District consent to test my child, named above, for possible full-time or part-time accelerated placement. _____

Parent/Guardian

CONSENT AND SUPPORT FOR ACCELERATION REQUEST

Student's Name: _____

Date: _____

Evidence supporting acceleration:

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____

This student is recommended for placement in _____ grade.

Date of placement will be _____.

If part-time:

Added Courses: _____

Courses to be compacted or eliminated include:

The parents of this student agree with this decision and consent to placement in the recommended grade. They will provide support and assistance in making the transition smooth.

_____ **Date** _____

Signature of Parent

For changes in building assignment, the principal's signatures below indicate their support and assistance in the transition.

Releasing Principal

Receiving Principal

APPEAL OF DECISION NOT TO ACCELERATE

STUDENT'S NAME: _____

DATE: _____

BUILDING NAME: _____

I respectfully disagree with the decision not to accelerate my child to the next grade and appeal to the principal to reconvene the committee to consider the matter further. I will provide the committee with any additional information available about my child's educational needs.

Signature of Parent

Date