

215-AR-1. PROMOTION AND RETENTION

Each teacher is to evaluate student progress on a daily basis as the school year proceeds. If the teacher determines that a student is encountering difficulty in his/her academic progress or physical, social or emotional development, the teacher is expected to communicate directly with the student's parents, and every effort is to be made to obtain parental cooperation in providing additional appropriate and available help for the child. However, if the difficulty or difficulties persist (as indicated by the student's continued lack of performance and as noted on student progress reports, conferences, and report cards), the teacher is to notify the parents/guardians of the child of possible retention or failure to pass the course by the beginning of the third report period.

Grades K – 6

When difficulties are identified, the teacher must report the student having problems to the Academic and Behavioral Concerns team (ABC). The instructional support process would involve the parents/guardians and the ABC team, including a building administrator, in designing interventions to help the student experiencing academic problems.

If, at the end of the school year, the academic problems are still present and the interventions from the ABC team have not helped, the ABC team may recommend retention. In general, the failure of two (2) or more major subjects will be the grounds for a retention recommendation.

The ABC team would then have a final conference with the parents/guardians to answer all questions concerning the child's retention and thus clarify the reasons for the recommendation.

If, at this point, the parents/guardians are not in agreement with the ABC team's recommendation/actions, they have the right to contest/appeal that decision/action by utilizing the regular appeal process. This includes a conference with the building principal, and then, if not satisfied, a conference with the District Superintendent.

If through the appeal process, no valid reason(s) is/are brought to light for reversing the decision and the parents continue to insist that their child be promoted, they will be required to sign a document which states that they, the parents/guardians, will assume total responsibility for any difficulties their child may encounter in his/her subsequent school experience.

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Grades 7 & 8

When difficulties are identified, the teacher must report the student having problems to the Secondary Instructional Support (SIS)-Response to Intervention (RtI) team, comprised of grade level core subject teachers, the SIS-RtI teacher, and the grade-level guidance counselor. The instructional support process would involve the parents/guardians, the SIS-RtI team, and a building administrator, in designing interventions to help the student experiencing academic problems.

If, at the end of the school year, the academic problems are still present and the interventions from the SIS-RtI team have not helped, the team may recommend retention. The SIS-RtI team would then have a final conference with the parents/guardians to answer all questions concerning the child's retention and thus clarify the reasons for the recommendation. The grounds for a retention recommendation are as follow:

- Students must pass four (4) of the five (5) core subjects to be promoted to the next level. The core subjects include English, literature, math, science, & social studies.
- At least three (3) of the core classes must be passed during the school year. If a student fails two (2) courses, one (1) of the failed courses, must be remediated to move to the next grade level. Only one (1) course per school year can be remediated at 7th and 8th grade levels.
- The student will have to complete the subject successfully utilizing an approved tutor as per the guidelines in 215-AR-2 (Policy 116, Tutoring), at an approved school remedial program, or repeat the grade during the next school year.

Students will not receive credit for repeating the same core class for any two consecutive years at any summer school program, no matter what the grade level. Tutoring or repeating the grade level will be the only remediation options.

No student will be retained more than once per grade level in grade 7 or grade 8.

The building principal has final discretion to retain a student.

Grades 9 – 12

Students must pass all required courses.

To be promoted to a sophomore homeroom status a student must have earned a minimum of six and one-half (6.5) credits during the freshman year. To be promoted to a junior homeroom status a student must have earned a minimum of thirteen (13) credits during the sophomore year. To be promoted to a senior homeroom status a student must have earned a minimum of nineteen and one-half (19.5) credits.

Students must earn a minimum of 25.5 credits to graduate.

A student can remediate failed courses in a summer school program or by successfully utilizing an approved tutor as per the guidelines in 215-AR-2 (Policy 116, Tutoring). No more than two (2) courses may be taken at summer school remediation.

Children with Disabilities

Promotion or advancement decisions shall be in accordance with the I.E.P.

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