

PROMOTION AND RETENTION OF STUDENTS

Policy 345.4

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Decisions relative to pupil promotion and retention at grades PK-5 level will be made on the basis of what is best for the individual child. A thorough consideration of the child's academic achievement, chronological age and physical maturity, will be made in making the decision in each case. In the event that retention or promotion is being considered, parents will be notified as early as possible. Before making a recommendation to retain or promote a student, the principal shall ensure that appropriate communication between the school and the parent(s)/guardian(s) has taken place at appropriate times. When parents/guardians do not agree with the recommendation the District Administrator will make the final decision after giving substantial weight to the parents/guardians concerns.

Generally, retentions and promotions are more beneficial if they occur as early in the child's life as possible. Therefore, with few exceptions, the practice of retaining or promoting students will be limited to the primary grades.

Double-Promotion

As with regular promotion and retention, the matter of double-promoting K-5 students (skipping a grade) will be practiced only when it would seem advisable in the best interests of the individual child. In general, double promotions will be made rarely since it is generally better to broaden and enrich a bright student's educational program than it is to shorten it.

Promotion of Fourth and Eighth Graders

A student may advance from 4th to 5th and 8th to 9th if any of the criteria are met:

1. Test Scores. The fourth grade student's score on the fourth grade examination or the eighth grade student's score on the eighth grade examination will be basic or better on the WKCE or equivalent.
2. Academics. Passing grades in core academic classes during the current school year or successfully completes the goals and objectives on the individualized education plan (IEP) or Section 504 plan.
3. Teacher Recommendation Teacher recommendations shall be in writing and shall include a recommendation to promote or not promote.
4. Remediation. If a student does not meet any of the above criteria, then a student may advance from grade 4 to 5, and 8 to 9, pending successful completion of a summer remediation program developed by the school principal.

The District Administrator shall be responsible for the general supervision and management of the promotion of students under this policy. The District Administrator or, if assigned the responsibility, the school principal shall determine whether a student has satisfied the criteria in this policy.

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Legal Reference: Wisconsin Statutes 118.33 (6)

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