

IKE – PROMOTION AND RETENTION OF STUDENTS

Philosophy

Grade placement should provide each child with both educational challenges and successes from school activities. Grade placement is based on the premise that each grade will provide appropriate academic, physical, emotional, and social growth.

The continuous progress approach of instruction provides for a range of abilities within a grade level. However, when a student is regarded to be at the extreme of this range, a review of grade placement may be requested by the teacher and/or parent.

District curriculum includes competencies and Performance Indicators for each grade level. Typically, a student will spend one year in each grade level to complete these curriculum requirements. However, growth does not take place at the same pace or time for all students. Some students may achieve mastery in a shorter period of time while others may need additional time. Promotion and retention may be considered as methods of meeting the needs of such children.

The decision to promote or retain a student is very serious and developmental and academic implications must be considered. Prior to making such decisions input must be gathered from multiple sources.

Guidelines

Each School Principal will have written procedures outlining the process to be followed when a student is being considered for promotion or retention. The following guidelines will be considered when making these decisions.

1. Academic achievement, social and emotional development, and physical growth will be considered. In making the decision to promote or retain one must ask will the student benefit from the promotion or retention.
2. No child will be retained more than once in grades K to 8.
3. Retentions are not considered a failure or a repetition of a grade. Experiences must be provided during the period of retention that will be beneficial to the student's academic and social and emotional development consistent with continuous progress approach. One must ask what the student will be doing that is different from the first experience in the specific grade.
4. Students may be promoted in subject areas in which they demonstrate that they have mastered all Performance Indicators for that particular subject area.
5. All recommendations concerning grade placement must be made to the School Principal. The classroom teacher must notify the School Principal if he/she is considering promotion or retention for one of his/her students. A grade placement team will be formed to review the student data and consult with the parents.
6. Parents will be asked for their written consent to any proposed changes in regular grade placement.
7. Final authority for grade placement rests with the School Principal.

Statutory/Regulatory/Policy/Handbook Cross References

Ed 306.141(a) (Promoting Students)
Handbook (Parent/Student)

APPROVED/REVISED: November 3, 2011, May 7, 2015, June 7, 2018

PREVIOUS POLICY: December 4, 1986 – Promotion and Retention of Students