

Promotion/Retention

The board recognizes that the rate of physical, social, emotional and academic growth will vary among individual students. Furthermore, the board also recognizes that grade acceleration and retention, while beneficial to students in rare circumstances, can also be detrimental to students. It is essential that any decision to retain or accelerate a student be made only after careful consideration of multiple factors.

After a student has successfully completed a year of study at a specific grade level, he/she will be promoted to the next grade unless retention or grade acceleration are proposed by a parent, guardian, teacher, school counselor or administrator. Retention means that a student will repeat a grade level after one full year at that level or move to a lower grade level part way through an academic year. Grade acceleration means that a student will move ahead one or more grade levels after completion of a full or partial year at a grade level.

Consideration will be given to multiple factors when determining whether to retain or accelerate a student. These factors shall include the student's current educational achievement of district and state learning objectives, physical development, social and emotional maturity, educational background, age and other pertinent factors. Retention should not be considered, except in instances where there is a strong likelihood that the student will benefit in the short and long-term with minimum social and emotional disruption. Retention or acceleration of a student in grades kindergarten through eight shall in all cases result only from a thorough study of all factors.

Parents and guardians of a student being considered for retention or acceleration shall be notified at the earliest possible time of the school's concerns and shall have opportunity to be involved in the process for determining placement. No retention or grade acceleration shall occur in grades kindergarten through eight except with the permission of the parent or legal guardian.

The superintendent will establish procedures for the retention and acceleration of students. Policy and procedure 2421 shall apply to the placement of students currently enrolled in University Place School District who have been enrolled in the district for the last 30 consecutive school days. The placement of new students, students reentering the system after being formally withdrawn or of students in the first 30 school days immediately following enrollment is governed by policy 3110, Qualification of Attendance and Placement.

Cross References: 2090 - Program Evaluation
 2107 - Comprehensive Early Literacy Plan

Management Resources: 2015 - October Policy Issue

Adoption Date: **10.16**
Classification: **Discretionary**
Revised Dates: