

Lower Merion School District

Policy No.: 215
Section: STUDENTS
Title: PROMOTION, ACCELERATION & RETENTION
Date Adopted: 9/71
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215 PROMOTION, ACCELERATION & RETENTION

Each student shall be moved forward in a continuous growth pattern of academic achievement and development that corresponds with the student's chronological, physical, emotional and social development, the system of grade levels, and attainment of academic standards established for each grade.

A crucial element in the decision to promote, accelerate or retain students is the evaluation of the student. The evaluation of students must be a continuous and forward-looking process producing a creative effect which improves present and future behavior and practice. The concern in the total evaluation process is the whole child: their growth in an academic sense as well as his physical, social and emotional development. Since evaluation must be a continuous and forward-looking process, evaluation procedures may reflect innovative practices as approved by the Superintendent or designee.

Acceleration

The individual making a recommendation for acceleration should notify the principal of the possibility at the earliest possible date. Additional guidelines regarding the acceleration of students shall be included in the accompanying Administrative Regulation.

Retention

The individual making a recommendation for retention should notify the principal of the possibility at the earliest possible date.

Since the District actively discourages retention, only after reasonable efforts have been made to remediate the student's difficulties should a student be considered for retention.

The principal shall consult with the teacher(s) and other appropriate professionals (e.g., counselor, nurse, psychologist, Achievement team) whose combined views are taken into consideration along with those of the parents/guardians. The building principal is responsible for gathering information and making a recommendation to the Superintendent or designee, who will be responsible for determining the promotion, acceleration, or retention of each student.