



**March 2022: No recommended changes to Policy  
Updated Procedures and Form for Acceleration and Retention**

**513 STUDENT ACCELERATION, RETENTION AND PROGRAM DESIGN**

**I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance to professional staff, parents and students regarding student promotion, retention and program design.

**II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

The School Board expects all students to achieve at an acceptable level of proficiency. Parental assistance, enrichment and/or remedial programs, counseling and other appropriate services shall be coordinated and utilized to the greatest extent possible to help students succeed in school.

A. Promotion

Students who achieve at levels deemed acceptable by local and state standards shall be promoted to the next grade level at the completion of each school year.

B. Retention

Retention of a student may be considered when professional staff and parents feel that it is in the best interest of the student. Physical development, maturity, and emotional factors shall be considered as well as scholastic achievement. The Superintendent/designee's decision shall be final.

C. Program Design

1. The Superintendent/designee, with participation of the professional staff and parents, shall develop and implement programs to challenge students that are consistent with the needs of students at every level. A procedure for screening and identifying students for program assignment shall be developed in coordination with such programs. Opportunities for special programs and placement outside of the school district shall also be developed as additional options.
2. The school district will adopt procedures for the academic acceleration of gifted and talented students. These procedures will include

how the school district will:

- a. Assess a student's readiness and motivation for acceleration;  
and
  - b. Match the level, complexity, and pace of the curriculum to a student to achieve the best type of academic acceleration for that student.
3. The school district will adopt procedures for the academic acceleration of gifted and talented students. These procedures will include how the school district will:
- a. assess a student's readiness and motivation for acceleration; and
  - b. match the level, complexity, and pace of the curriculum to a student to achieve the best type of academic acceleration for that student.
4. The school district will adopt procedures which describe the comprehensive evaluation in cognitive, social, and emotional development domains to help determine a child's ability to meet kindergarten grade expectations and progress to first grade in the subsequent year for early admission to kindergarten or first grade of gifted and talented learners. The comprehensive evaluation must use valid and reliable instrumentation, be aligned with state kindergarten expectations, and include a parental report and teacher observations of the child's knowledge, skills, and abilities. The procedures must be sensitive to under-represented groups.

***Legal References:*** Minn. Stat. § 120B.15 (Gifted and Talented Program)  
Minn. Stat. § 123B.143, Subd. 1 (Superintendents)

***Cross References:*** MSBA/MASA Model Policy 613 (Graduation Requirements)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 614 (School District Testing Plan and Procedure)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 615 (Testing Accommodations, Modifications, and Exemptions for IEP's, Section 504 Plans, and LEP Students)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 617 (School District Ensurance of Preparatory and High School Standards)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 618 (Assessment of Student Achievement)  
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 620 (Credit for Learning)

**POLICY ADOPTED:** February 17, 2009

**POLICY REVISED:** December 4, 2014, August 26, 2021