

Promotion, Retention and Acceleration of Students

Elementary school retention

A teacher, counselor or parent/guardian may make a recommendation for retention if they believe that retention is in the best interest of the student. Prior to making a recommendation, the following shall be considered:

1. Previous recommendations
2. Previous retention
3. Student social/emotional development
4. Academic performance
5. Parental conferences
6. Other specified reasons (Light Retention Scale)

If the recommendation is that retention is in the best interest of the student, the teacher, counselor or principal shall schedule a conference with the parent/guardian to discuss the recommendation for retention. If the parent/guardian agrees with the recommendation, the student will be retained.

Middle school retention

The Board realizes that retention at any age/grade level is a serious step. Therefore, all retention decisions shall be considered carefully by all concerned parties.

Retention

Retention at the middle school level shall be considered carefully. A student shall be considered for retention only if he or she has failed more than one of the four major courses (math, science, social studies or English).

The following factors shall be considered for retention:

1. Academic performance
2. Student social/emotional development
3. Parental conferences
4. Other specified reasons
5. Administrative consent.

If the recommendation is that retention is in the best interest of the student, the principal shall schedule a conference with the parent/guardian to discuss the recommendation for retention.

In any retention, the school shall explore as many options as possible to ensure that the student succeeds (e.g., changing teachers, testing for learning disabilities, counseling, etc.).

The Board realizes that while these procedures may not solve the problem of academic failure at the middle school level, they do provide a way of making students aware of their responsibilities and the conditions under which they may be retained.

Additional reasons for retention not covered by these procedures (such as academic failure due to truancy) shall be handled administratively in accordance with Board policy.

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