

TOPICSSTATEMENT

## a. Philosophy

Successful completion of the Primary School, (kindergarten through third grade) fourth grade, or fifth grade for students not in a special education program is based upon satisfactory academic achievement as indicated by demonstration of the district and state curriculum expectations, grades, progress reports, student work samples, assessment results, and other pertinent data including ability, chronological age, attendance, and the probable effect of promotion or retention upon the student.

## b. Guidelines

Any student not achieving up to his or her grade level expectations may be considered for additional time. Decisions regarding an extension of time in any grade will be consistent with state regulations and Oldham County Board of Education Policy 4065.

Students should generally not spend more than one extra year in the elementary school; however, teachers, the counselor, and the principal are responsible for rendering a judgment that will best meet the individual needs of the student in consideration. Parents are to be included in this discussion. It is possible that a second additional year may meet those needs and as such may be considered.

Any student achieving significantly above grade level expectations may be considered for acceleration to the next grade level (grade skipping). Decisions regarding grade level acceleration in any grade will be consistent with state regulations and Oldham County Board Policy 4057.

## c. Procedures

Extending the time of education for a child should be a cooperative decision between teacher, parent(s), administrator, and other professional personnel who can provide pertinent information about the child.

By the end of the third grading period, teachers will identify those students who are likely to be considered for an extra year and will contact parents to discuss the issues.

During the fourth grading period, in cases where there is a lack of consensus between the parent(s) and teacher(s) concerning the advisability of retention/extension, a school screening committee including the teacher(s), principal, counselor, and parent(s) will study the data and recommend appropriate placement. If a consensus decision cannot be reached between the aforementioned parties, **the principal will determine the final decision.** For students being considered for an extension of the primary school, the teacher will complete the "Successful Completion of

the Primary School” form. Written confirmation of the committee’s final decision will be sent to the parents.

Grade acceleration will be considered as a service after review of supporting evidence which will include the Iowa Acceleration Scale, work samples, and progress reports and other pertinent data. The school’s GATES Committee will gather and review the evidence and will make recommendations to the district Gifted and Talented Identification Team. The final decision will be made by the district Identification Team. Written confirmation of the final decision will be sent to the parents.

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Adopted - Buckner Elementary School Council – March 20, 2001

Revised – Buckner Elementary School Council – May 20, 2010