

Title: Grade Level Acceleration

The Council Bluffs Community School District recognizes that some students have the need for an educational program which requires them to work at an accelerated pace, with experiences beyond the core curriculum, and have opportunities to study topics in greater depth.

One method of programming for students who demonstrate advanced abilities is acceleration. Acceleration adjusts the pace of instruction to the student's capability, provides an appropriate level of challenge, and allows students to move through traditional educational organizations more rapidly, based on readiness and motivation.

The range and type of acceleration options vary in terms of the degree to which the student is already performing at a higher level than chronological peers or demonstrating the ability and desire to proceed through the curriculum at a faster pace.

Some acceleration options provide for meeting the needs of the student in the classroom at the site of current enrollment. Such options include:

- Curriculum compacting: The regular curriculum of any or all subjects is tailored to the specific needs of a student. Through the use of pre-assessments, teachers make decisions as to whether students can move more quickly through the content, and whether a student may benefit from alternative activities.
- Advanced Courses: Secondary students are eligible to take courses with advanced content in order to receive credit for completion of college-level work through concurrent enrollment and advanced placement examinations. (For a listing of course options, see secondary Program of Studies.)

Additional acceleration options may involve the movement of students within the current site of enrollment, between enrollment sites, or entirely to a new site. These options are:

- Whole-grade acceleration: The student is moved ahead of normal grade placement. This is best done at the end of an academic year in order to take place at the beginning of the next year.

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- Subject-matter acceleration: The student is placed for a part of the day with students at more advanced grade levels for one or more subjects without being assigned to a higher grade.
- Attendance Center: A student may attend classes in more than one building if it is determined that the course he/she needs to access cannot be provided in the building where they are currently enrolled.
- Post-Secondary Enrollment Options: The student, after meeting all required criteria, enrolls in a class at a post-secondary institution while still attending high school. (See secondary Program of Studies.)

Cross References: 635.1 Legal References: Iowa Code Sections 261E, 279.8, 280.3

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