Policy

SUMMER SCHOOL

Code **IHCA** Revised 11/24

Purpose: To establish the basic structure for summer instruction of students.

The district will offer a summer school program whenever there is enough interest by students and parents for such a program. The district will operate the summer program in accordance with standards required by the state department of education and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement (AdvancED/SACS CASI). The instruction offered in the summer school program will meet the same rigor and standards required during the regular school year.

Schools will charge students a fee to cover the expenses of staffing, providing instructional materials, textbooks and other expenses directly related to the instructional program of the summer school.

For grades one through eight, a school may promote students only for courses in summer school programs, either district-wide or school-site, that meet all regulatory requirements. For students in grades nine through 12, a school may award Carnegie units of credit only for courses in summer school programs, either district-wide or school-site, that meet all regulatory requirements. All students taking a course for one unit of credit must receive at least 120 hours of instruction in that subject area. Students may earn up to two credits during one summer school session. Additional credits may be earned with prior approval from the building level principal.

Summer Reading Camp

Students who are significantly below third-grade reading proficiency at the end of third grade will be subject to mandatory retention under state law. These students will be provided the opportunity to attend a district-wide summer reading camp to receive intensive instructional services and support. The summer reading camp will offer students 96 additional hours of reading instruction, progress monitoring, and ongoing access to a school library/media center. Transportation will be provided at no cost. The district may elect to invite students in other grade levels who are not progressing towards grade-level proficiency in reading to attend summer reading camp. Parents/Legal guardians of eligible students will make the final decision on whether their child will participate.

Students who successfully participate in a summer reading camp at the conclusion of the third grade year and demonstrate through either a reading portfolio or an alternate assessment that the student's mastery of the state standards is above the lowest level on the state reading assessment, may be eligible for a good cause exemption from state-mandated third grade retention.

*Beginning in the 2025-26 school year first grade students not exhibiting grade-level reading proficiency will be required to enroll in a summer reading camp. Beginning in the 2026-27 school year second year students will be required to enroll in a summer reading camp.

Adopted 6/1/98; Issued 3/4/13, 10/2/17, Revised 11/11/24

Legal references:

A. S.C. Code, 1976, as amended:
    1. Section 59-155-110, et seq. – South Carolina Read to Succeed Act of 2014.
B. State Board of Education Regulations:
    1. R43-231 – Defined program K-5
    2. R43-232 – Defined program 6-8
    3. R43-234 – Defined program, grades 9-12 and graduation requirements.
    4. R-43-240 – Summer programs.
C. South Carolina Department of Education:
    1. Intervention Guidance Document, Kindergarten through Grade Five (2017).
    2. Read to Succeed Third Grade Retention Guidance Document, Fall 2016 (2016).