

PROMOTION AND RETENTION

The board recognizes that the rate of physical, social, emotional and academic growth will vary among individual students. Since each student grows at his/her own rate, these individual growth characteristics shall be recognized in classroom programming.

After a student has successfully completed a year of study at a specific grade level, s/he will be promoted to the next grade. Retention at the same grade level may be beneficial to the student when s/he is not demonstrating minimum competency in basic skill subjects in relation to ability and grade level. Retention should be considered where there is a strong likelihood that the student will benefit with minimum social and emotional disruption.

For grades K- 6, the building principal will form a Retention Decision Team (RDT). Possible members the building principal may consider placing on the team are the child's parents, school counselor, the child's teachers, specialists, school psychologists and the child him/herself. The building principal will be the Chairman of the RDT. The RDT will meet no later than two (2) weeks before the end of the school year to determine if a child will be retained for the following school year. When the committee cannot come to a consensus, the building principal will make the final decision. The decision of the principal cannot be appealed.

For grades 7 – 8, students must pass 60% of semester core classes (language arts, history, reading, science, math) in order to be promoted to the next grade unless those classes failed are retaken and passed before the next school year begins. All make-up classes have to be preapproved by the building principal and any costs associated with the make-up classes will be borne by the student. Make up classes will not occur during regular school hours unless the entire grade is repeated. The student and his/her parents or guardians may appeal this section of the policy to the building principal. The building principal's decision cannot be appealed.

Students in grades 9th-12th will be assigned to a grade level by the school counselor based upon the number of credits a student has earned and not by age or number of years in attendance. All make-up classes have to be preapproved by the building principal and any costs associated with the make-up classes will be borne by the student. **Graduation requirements are set by OSPI and the Grand Coulee Dam School Board of Directors, based on the cohort year the student begins 9th grade. (WAC 180-51-035)**

Grade placement/promotion of special education students will be based on the SPED team's decision which shall consider the student's IEP, the student's progress toward meeting the goals listed in the student's IEP, and recommendations by the state.

Cross Reference: *Policy 2090 Program Evaluation*

Grand Coulee Dam School District

Adoption Date: **June, 2012**

Revised: **3.15; 6.17**