

# **GRADE ADVANCEMENT: RETENTION, PROMOTION & ACCELERATION OF STUDENTS**

**Section 400, #417**

**Students and  
Student Personnel**

## **Procedures for Implementation:**

**Date of Last Review:  
3/15/07**

### **Implementation**

Classroom educators are responsible for assessing student progress and recommending the promotion of students each year. Educators will assess academic readiness to advance to the next grade using a thorough evaluation process that will include but not be limited to standardized testing - those offered by the State as well as others chosen by the District - classroom-based testing, portfolios and teacher observation. The evaluation will also take into account social, emotional, physical and mental growth, past academic performance and behavior, motivation, attendance, and other pertinent circumstances.

The Principal will develop rules to implement this policy that will specify a process for the consideration of retention or acceleration that will include the following characteristics:

1. Will seek the involvement of parents/guardians in a highly collaborative working relationship.
2. Focus the use of retention in the early primary grades at which time research indicates it is most effective.
3. Acceleration should be considered in rare cases after all enrichment opportunities have been thoroughly explored.
4. Students will be retained or accelerated if it is expected that the action will be beneficial to the student socially, emotionally, academically and when there are not other ways to meet student's needs.

When considering retention, such actions as remediation in class or out, tutoring in class or after school, mentoring, cooperative efforts with families, or summer school should be evaluated.

Before considering acceleration, actions such as inclusion in a full or part-time gifted program, enrichment in the classroom, or other advanced courses through

correspondence, distance learning, or through another institutions should be examined.

5. Will outline steps and time frames that provide for a great deal of interaction with parents/guardians.
6. The final decision will be made by the Principal after consultation with parents/guardians, classroom teacher and other professional staff.

Parents may appeal a decision of the Principal to the Superintendent.