

Section 400, #417

**Students and Student
Personnel Services**

Date Warned: 2/28/07

Date Adopted: 3/15/07

GRADE ADVANCEMENT: RETENTION, PROMOTION & ACCELERATION OF STUDENTS

Policy

It is the policy of the Orleans Southwest Supervisory Union School District to assure all student are progressing in their educational program and have reached a standard of achievement necessary for satisfactory progress in the next grade. Accordingly, the Superintendent shall assure that administrative rules to implement this policy will specify a process for the consideration of retention or acceleration.

Background

The Board believes that the primary goal of the education system is to educate all students. Since each child develops physically, mentally, emotionally, and socially at an individual rate, every student will not complete the PreK - twelve grade levels of work at the same time. Some students will need more time, while others may need less.

The Vermont Framework of Standards and Learning opportunities defines what students should know and be able to do at various stages of their school careers. Schools are responsible for adopting curricula that provide students with opportunities to master the standards. Promotion from grade to grade as well as retention and acceleration should be based on a student's ability to meet the standards over time.

Definitions

1. **Acceleration** is the advancement of a student by more than one grade beyond the current grade level.
2. **Promotion** is the single grade step most students take from year to year.
3. **Retention** allows a student to repeat all or part of a grade in order to more fully prepare for the work of the next grade

Legal Reference(s): VT State Board of Education Manual of Rules & Practices: §2120.2.2 (b)

Cross Reference: Student Attendance