

## PROMOTION AND RETENTION OF STUDENTS

The promotion of each student is determined individually. The decision to promote a student or to retain a student in a grade is made on the basis of the following factors: reading grade, mental ability, age, physical maturity, emotional and social development, social issues, home conditions and grade average.

Promotion procedures demand continuous analysis and study of the cumulative student case history records. Guidelines include the following elements:

1. A student receiving passing grades in reading, social studies, mathematics, science and English is promoted.
2. A student having failing grades in reading, mathematics and English at the end of each year has his/her case evaluated by the teachers, guidance counselor and principal for placement.
3. No conditional promotions are permitted.
4. A student having failing grades may be assigned to the next higher grade only with approval of the principal.
5. A student having passing grades, "D" or above, throughout the year is not failed.
6. No student should be retained more than twice in the elementary grades.
7. Documentary and anecdotal evidence should be available to justify retention.
8. A student with failing grades during any academic term is entered into the District's intervention programs to be assisted toward academic success in those areas.
9. An individual plan will be developed for every student who is not promoted that identifies his/her learning needs and actions to be taken to meet those needs.

10. Students receiving high school diplomas shall be able to demonstrate, at a minimum, high school levels of proficiency in reading, writing, mathematics, science and citizenship.

Beginning with students who enter fourth grade in the school year commencing July 1, 2001, fourth grade students failing to pass the fourth grade reading proficiency test are not promoted to the fifth grade unless the student is a disabled child excused from the test or the student's principal and reading teacher agree the student is academically prepared to be promoted.

Eighth grade students must complete a one-year course of study in American History in order to be promoted to the ninth grade.

Any student who is truant for more than 10% of the required attendance days of the current school year and has failed two or more of the required curriculum subject areas in the current grade is retained, unless the student's principal and the teachers of the failed subject areas agree that the student is academically prepared to be promoted to the next grade level.

Students in the fourth and sixth grades who fail to pass three or more of the five proficiency test requirements may be retained in their current grade levels, for the next school year, regardless of whether the student attends summer school remediation. However, any student failing to attain passing scores on three or more of the five designated proficiency tests must be offered summer remediation services.

"Academically prepared," as used in this policy, means that the principal, in consultation with the student's teacher(s) has reviewed the student's work and records and has concluded that, in his/her judgment as a professional educator, the student is capable of progressing through and successfully completing work at the next grade level.

[Adoption date: June 28, 2001]

#### LEGAL REFERENCES

ORC 3301.0710; 3301.0711; 3313.60; 3313.608; 3313.609; 3313.6010  
OAC 3301-35-02  
Educating Cleveland's Children:  
Strategic Initiatives for the Cleveland Municipal School District

#### CROSS REFERENCES

AFI, Evaluation of Educational Resources  
IGCD, Educational Options (Also LEB)

