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REVISED POLICY - VOL. 20, NO. 1 (HB 7071)

5410.01 - PROMOTION, ACCELERATION, PLACEMENT, AND RETENTION

The School Board recognizes that the personal, social, physical, and educational growth of children will vary and that they should be placed in the educational setting most appropriate to their needs at the various stages of their growth.

The Board shall provide for the placement, acceleration, and progression of students through adopted student progression plans. The District student progression plan includes the standards for evaluating each student's performance, including how well s/he masters the performance standards approved by the State Board of Education. A student will be promoted to the succeeding grade level when s/he has demonstrated sufficient proficiency to permit him/her to move ahead in the educational program of the next grade.

No student may be assigned to a grade level based solely on age or other factors that constitute social promotion. (F.S. 1008.25(6), ~~(a)~~)

Progress Monitoring Plans and Remediation

Each student must participate in the Statewide standardized assessment program that is required by F.S. 1008.22. Each student who does not achieve a Level 3 or above on Statewide standardized English language arts assessment; the Statewide standardized mathematics assessment; or the Algebra I end-of-course (EOC) assessment must be evaluated to determine the nature of the student's difficulty, the areas of academic need, and strategies for providing academic supports to improve the student's performance.

A student who is not meeting the District or State requirements for satisfactory performance in English language arts and mathematics must be covered by one (1) of the following plans:

- A. a Federally required student plan such as an individual education plan;
- B. a schoolwide system of progress monitoring for all students, except a student who scores Level 4 or above on the English language arts and mathematics assessments may be exempted from participation by the principal; or
- C. an individualized progress monitoring plan.

Any student who exhibits a substantial deficiency in reading, based upon locally determined or statewide assessments conducted in kindergarten or grade 1, grade 2, or grade 3, or through teacher observations, must be given intensive reading instruction immediately following the identification of the reading deficiency. The student's reading proficiency must be monitored and the intensive instruction must continue until the student demonstrates grade level proficiency in a manner determined by the District, which may include achieving a Level 3 on the Statewide standardized English language arts assessment.

The parent of any student who exhibits a substantial deficiency in reading, as described in the above paragraph, must be notified in writing of the following:

- A. that his/her child has been identified as having a substantial deficiency in reading;
- B. a description of the current services that are provided to the child;

- C. a description of the proposed supplemental instructional services and supports that will be provided to the child that are designed to remediate the identified area of reading deficiency;
- D. that if the child's reading deficiency is not remediated by the end of grade 3, the child must be retained unless s/he is exempt from mandatory retention for good cause;
- E. strategies for parents to use in helping their child succeed in reading proficiency;
- F. that the Statewide, standardized English language arts assessment is not the sole determiner of promotion and that additional evaluations, portfolio reviews, and assessments are available to the child to assist parents and the School District in knowing when a child is reading at or above grade level and ready for grade promotion;
- G. the District's specific criteria and policies for a portfolio as provided in F.S. 1008.22 and the evidence required for a student to demonstrate mastery of Florida's academic standards for English language arts;

A parent of a student in grade 3 who is identified anytime during the year as being at risk of retention may request that the school immediately begin collecting evidence for a portfolio.

- H. the District's specific criteria and policies for midyear promotion. Midyear promotion means promotion of a retained student at any time during the year of retention once the student has demonstrated ability to read at grade level.

To be promoted to grade 4, a student must score a Level 2 or higher on the Statewide standardized English language arts assessment required under F.S. 1008.22 for grade 3. If a student's reading deficiency is not remedied by the end of grade 3, as demonstrated by scoring Level 2 or higher on the Statewide standardized assessment required under F.S. 1008.22 for grade 3, the student must be retained.

A student who has been retained in third grade due to a reading deficiency shall be promoted mid-year if the student has demonstrated mastery of the State-mandated requirements in reading.

A student may be eligible for a waiver of retention criteria for acceptable good cause as outlined in the student progression plan. A student may be retained at the same grade level/course(s) when s/he has not demonstrated satisfactory mastery of the State-mandated requirements in the required subject areas. Parents must be informed in advance of the possibility of retention of a student at a grade level.

Middle Grades Promotion

In order for a student to be promoted to high school from a school that includes middle grades 6, 7, and 8, the student must successfully complete the following courses:

- A. Three (3) middle grades or higher courses in English Language Arts (ELA).
- B. Three (3) middle grades or higher courses in mathematics.
 - 1. Each school that includes middle grades must offer at least one (1) high school level mathematics course for which students may earn high school credit. Successful completion of a high school level Algebra I or Geometry course is not contingent upon the student's performance on the Statewide standardized end-of-course (EOC) assessment.
 - 2. To earn high school credit for Algebra I, a middle grades student must take the Statewide standardized Algebra I EOC assessment and pass the course, and in addition, a student's performance on the Algebra I EOC assessment constitutes thirty percent (30%) of the student's final course grade.
 - 3. To earn high school credit for a Geometry course, a middle grades student must take the Statewide standardized Geometry EOC assessment, which constitutes thirty percent (30%) of the student's final course grade, and earn a passing grade in the course.
- C. Three (3) middle grades or higher courses in social studies.
 - 1. One (1) of these courses must be at least a one (1) semester civics education course that includes the roles and responsibilities of Federal, State, and local governments; the structures and functions of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of government; and the meaning and significance of historic documents, such as the Articles of Confederation, the Declaration of Independence, and the Constitution of the United States.

2. Each student's performance on the Statewide standardized EOC assessment in civics education required under F.S. 1008.22 constitutes thirty percent (30%) of the student's final course grade.
3. Based, customizable to each student, and include research-based assessments to assist students in determining educational and career options and goals. The course must result in a completed personalized academic and career plan for the student that may be revised as the student progresses through middle school and high school; must emphasize the importance of entrepreneurship and employability skills; and must include information from the Department of Economic Opportunity's economic security report under F.S. 445.07.
4. The required personalized academic and career plan must inform students of high school graduation requirements, including a detailed explanation of the following:
 - a. requirements for earning a high school diploma designation under F.S. 1003.4285;
 - b. requirements for each scholarship in the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program;
 - c. state university and Florida college system institution admission requirements;
 - d. available opportunities to earn college credit in high school, including advanced placement courses;
 - e. the International Baccalaureate Program;
 - f. the Advanced International Certificate of Education Program;
 - g. dual enrollment, including career dual enrollment; and
 - h. career education courses, including career-themed courses, preapprenticeship and apprenticeship programs, and course sequences that lead to industry certification pursuant to F.S. 1003.492 or 1008.44.
5. The course may be implemented as a stand-alone course or integrated into another course or courses.

Retention of Students with Disabilities

Retention and assignment of a student with disability will be determined by the student's Individual Education Plan (IEP) Team and follow the requirements of Florida law. The assignment of and services to be provided to a student with a disability will be documented on the student's IEP. Extended school year services may be provided for any student who would severely regress in his/her skills and overall functioning as demonstrated by supporting documentation and determined necessary by the student's IEP team.

F.S. 1003.4156

F.S. 1008.22

F.S. 1008.25

~~F.A.C. 6A-1.09421~~

F.A.C. 6A-1.09422

F.A.C. 6A-1.094221

~~F.A.C. 6A-1.094223~~

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F.S. 1003.4156

F.S. 1008.22

F.S. 1008.25

F.A.C. 6A-1.09422

F.A.C. 6A-1.094221

F.A.C. 6A-1.094222

Cross References

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