



Students

Promotion/Acceleration/Retention

The Governing Board expects students to progress through each grade within one school year. To accomplish this, instruction should accommodate the varying interests and growth patterns of individual students and include strategies for addressing academic deficiencies when needed.

Students shall progress through the grade levels by demonstrating growth in learning and meeting grade-level standards of expected student achievement that are established by the Governing Board. Pupils who demonstrate normal achievement in learning shall be promoted to the next grade at the appropriate time. No pupil shall be retained/accelerated more than once during grades kindergarten through five (K-5) and no more than once during grades six through eight (6 – 8).

(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)

(cf. 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements/Standards of Proficiency)

(cf. 6146.5 - Elementary School Promotion/Standards of Proficiency)

A pupil shall be recommended for acceleration or retention in the current grade only after extensive observation and evaluation of his/her developmental progress. The evaluation process shall include a Student Success Team (SST) meeting by the pupil's teacher, site administrator, support staff and the pupil's parent(s)/guardian(s).

The Board realizes that many factors must be carefully considered when attempting to determine whether or not a child will profit from retention. Prior to retention of any student, the following conditions shall be met:

1. The decision to retain shall be based upon predetermined grade level standards which the student has not met.
2. Intervention strategies will be provided the student to assist in meeting grade-level standards.
3. The student's parent/guardian shall be notified and given reasons for the retention.

Kindergarten

Children five years old or older who have completed one year of kindergarten shall be admitted to first grade regardless of age unless the parent/guardian and the district agree that the child be retained in kindergarten for not more than one additional school year. (Education Code 48011)



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Whenever a student is retained in kindergarten for an additional year, the Superintendent or designee shall secure an agreement, signed by the parent/guardian, stating that the student shall be retained in kindergarten for not more than one additional school year. (Education Code 46300)

Grades 2 - 8

Students shall be considered for promotion and retention between certain grade levels and primarily on the basis of their level of proficiency in specific subject areas:

1. Second grade and third grade in reading,
2. Third grade and fourth grade in reading,
3. Fourth grade and fifth grade in reading, English language arts and math,
4. The end of the intermediate grades and the beginning of middle school grades in reading, English language arts and math,
5. The end of middle school grades and the beginning of high school in reading, English language arts and math.

When high academic achievement is evident, the Superintendent or designee may recommend a student for acceleration into a higher grade level. The student's emotional growth shall be taken into consideration in making a determination to accelerate a student.

High School

Progress toward high school graduation shall be based on the student's ability to pass the subjects and electives necessary to earn the required number of credits.

Identification Process

When a student has more than one classroom teacher, the school shall determine which individual teacher shall be responsible for the promotion/retention decision. As early as possible in the school year and in students' school careers, the Superintendent or designee shall identify students who should be retained and who are at risk of being retained in accordance with law, Board policy, and administrative regulation.



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Students shall be identified on the basis of grades, overall classroom progress and performance and other indicators of academic achievement such as national, state, and local assessments, portfolios of student work, reading inventory assessments, and reading running records. Additional factors to be considered shall be academic, physical, social, and emotional readiness for the next grade.

(cf. 6162.5 - Student Assessment)

Intervention

When a student is recommended for retention or is identified as being at risk for retention, the Superintendent or designee shall provide opportunities for intervention instruction first to students who may be retained and then to those identified as at risk, to assist the student in overcoming his/her academic deficiencies. Such mandatory instruction may include but is not limited to tutorial programs, after-school programs, summer school programs, Saturday school, and intersession programs. Intervention instruction may be provided during the student's regular instruction day unless it would result in the student being removed from classroom instruction in the core curriculum. Parents shall be provided an option to exclude their child from this mandatory instruction. The teacher's evaluation regarding retention shall be discussed with parents prior to any determination regarding promotion or retention.

(cf. 6177 – Summer School)

The teacher's decision to promote or retain a student may be appealed consistent with Board policy, administrative regulation and law.

(cf. 5121 - Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement)

(cf. 5149 - At-Risk Students)

Legal Reference on next page



BOARD POLICY

BP 5123

Adopted: 8/28/07

Page 4 of 4

Students

Promotion/Acceleration/Retention

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

37252-37254.1 Summer school

46300 Method of computing ADA

48011 Admission on completing kindergarten; grade placement of pupils coming from other districts

48070-48070.5 Promotion and retention

56345 Elements of individualized education plan

60641-60647 Standardized Testing and Reporting Program

60648 Minimum performance levels

60850-60859 High School Exit Examination

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

200-202 Admission and exclusion of students

Management Resources:

CDE PROGRAM ADVISORIES

06121.89 - 06123.89 Educating Young Children: Next Steps in Implementing the School Readiness Task Force Report

0916.91 Retention of Students in Elementary and Middle Grades, CIL 91/92-02

CDE MANAGEMENT ADVISORIES

0900.90 Changes in Law concerning Eligibility for Admission to Kindergarten 90-10

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL OPINION

1001.98 Promotion and Retention #21610

CSBA ADVISORIES

1112.98 Student Promotion/Retention Advisory

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

CDE: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

Replaces BP 5123 (4/27/99)

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