

PROMOTION AND RETENTION OF STUDENTS

Policy Number: Superintendent File: IKE

Preschools

The District is committed to differentiated instruction at the kindergarten level in recognition that students entering kindergarten may or may not have participated in a formal preschool program. Pursuant to this commitment, the District does not have prescribed criteria for kindergarten readiness, but instead permits children to enroll in kindergarten when they reach age 5 on or before October 1 of the year of enrollment.

In accordance with the District's commitment to differentiated instruction at the kindergarten level, students shall progress from preschool to kindergarten when they reach age 5 on or before October 1 of the year of enrollment. An exception to kindergarten enrollment upon age 5 may be made if a preschool student has been identified as a child with disabilities under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. 1400 - 1487 ("IDEA") and the child's Individualized Education Program ("IEP") team determines, based on the child's disability, that progression to kindergarten is inappropriate and that the child's educational needs require another placement, including retention in preschool. In addition, an exception may be made if a child is identified as a "highly advanced gifted" 4 or 5 year-old student C.R.S. 22-20-103(13.5).

Elementary Schools

In the elementary schools, students progress from grade to grade usually spending one year at each level. However, some children will benefit from progressing more slowly, and staying another year in the same grade. Other children may need to progress more rapidly by accelerating more than one grade. Such cases will be discussed with the parent(s) or guardian in advance. The final decision to promote, retain or accelerate a child shall rest with the building principal in collaboration with the child's parent(s) or guardian, and if necessary with the superintendent (or his/her designee).

Middle Schools

A student must meet the following criteria to advance to the next grade level:

1. Maintain a cumulative grade point average of 1.5 for the school year in grades seven and eight.
2. Pass at least 12 of the 14 semesters of coursework taken.
3. Pass at least one semester each of mathematics, science, social studies, and English. A student must meet the middle school promotion criteria to advance from a District middle school to a District senior high school.

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Special circumstances may be considered by the building principal. The final decision to promote or retain a child shall rest with the building principal.

Students who do not meet the above criteria may attend a District (or other state accredited) summer school program for remediation and then be reconsidered for promotion.

Senior High Schools

1. A student must meet the District's middle school promotion criteria to advance from a middle school to a District senior high school.
2. Students in the senior high school are required to earn a total of 92% of the total possible Carnegie units of credit to meet the graduation requirements of a District senior high school in grades nine through twelve. When a student has earned a total of 17 units of credit in the senior high school, he/she will be considered a senior (twelfth grade) student. At that time senior students will have all the rights and privileges of that grade and will be eligible to participate in activities of that class. (Exceptions baccalaureate and graduation exercises. See Graduation Requirements, Policy IKF.)
3. The principal or his/her designee shall evaluate transcripts and equate advanced standing of all transfer students.

Students with Disabilities

Notwithstanding the above concerning the promotion and retention of elementary, middle school and high school students, the decision as to the placement of a student with disabilities and the location in which the student receives services shall be made in accordance with the IDEA and the Exceptional Children's Educational Act, Colo. Rev. Stat. 22-20-101 to -114.

Issued: August 22, 1986

Revised: April 4, 1989

Revised: May 4, 1993

Revised: June 21, 1994

Repealed by the Board and revised and reenacted by the Superintendent: April 1, 2003

Revised: November 26, 2007

Revised: January 20, 2009

Revised: March 31, 2016

LEGAL REF.:

20 U.S.C. 1400 - 1487 "Individuals with Disabilities Education Act"

C.R.S. 22-7-1201 et seq. "Colorado READ Act"

C.R.S. 22-20-103(12)(b)(13) and (13.5) Definitions

C.R.S. 22-20-101 to -114 Education of Exceptional Children

C.R.S. 22-54-103(10)(a)(iv)(b) and (10)(b)(I) Definitions

CROSS REF.:

IKF, Graduation Requirements

JEB, Entrance Age Requirements