

StudentsPromotion/Acceleration/Retention

The guiding philosophy when considering promotion, acceleration and retention shall be what is in the best interest of the student.

The Board of Education, dedicated to the continuous development of each student enrolled in its schools, shall establish and maintain high academic standards for each grade and monitor student performance in a continuous and systematic manner. The superintendent shall establish a system of grading and reporting academic achievement to students and their parents and guardians. This system shall determine when promotion and graduation requirements are met. The decision to promote or retain a student shall be based on consideration of the following: performance in the curriculum, attendance, performance on the CMT and CAPT assessment and on other testing instruments, social and emotional development, and what is deemed to be in the best interest of the student.

School staff shall identify, as early as possible, students in danger of failing and at risk for retention and notify parents of their concerns. This identification shall also include those students who fail to meet the remedial standards of the CMT and CAPT assessment programs. Prior to deciding on retention for a student who has not mastered the appropriate skills, the district shall provide and may require the student to attend one or more alternatives for remedial assistance. Opportunities provided for supplemental and remedial instruction to assist the student in overcoming academic deficiencies may include, but not be limited to tutorial programs, basic skills instruction, summer school, instruction during school vacations or during weekend programs, peer tutoring or mentoring.

A recommendation for retention or acceleration is a critical decision, one which requires frequent and informed discussion among parents, teachers and administrators so that they may weigh carefully the advantages and disadvantages to the student before any decision is made. Discussions shall center around child, family and school factors that indicate for or against retention.

After consultation with appropriate staff and parents, the final decision for promotion, retention, and acceleration shall be made by the building administrator. A Planning and Placement Team has the ultimate jurisdiction over the placement of a special education student and a PPT shall determine promotion, retention and graduation utilizing modified criteria in accordance with State Statute.

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Students shall be placed at an instructional level that will ensure the likelihood of continued success and, at the same time, provide a challenge. The majority of students will spend the normally allotted time to progress through the curriculum. A small number of students may benefit from spending additional time at a particular level or may need to have their instructional assignment scheduled across grade levels.

Occasionally students demonstrate mastery of nearly all the skills and objectives at the present and/or subsequent levels. These students may profit from accelerating, spending less than one year at one level. The student's social and emotional growth shall be taken into consideration in making a determination to accelerate. Instructional provisions shall be made for these students.

Progress toward high school graduation shall be based on the student's successful completion of courses necessary to earn the required number of credits, and meeting the credit distribution requirements. The student must also satisfactorily demonstrate achievement of the district's performance standards, assessed in part by the Connecticut Academic Performance Test (CAPT). Students who have not successfully met these performance standards shall participate in a course of study designed to help them attain a satisfactory level of competency prior to graduation.

Cf 6146.01 - Grading

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes  
10-76, Children Requiring Special Education  
10-221(b) Boards of Education to Prescribe Rules

P.A. 99-288 An Act Concerning Education Accountability

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BROOKFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Brookfield, Connecticut