

# PROMOTION AND RETENTION OF STUDENTS

Code **IKE** Issued **2/17**

---

Purpose: To establish the basic structure for the promotion and retention of students.

The district affirms academic excellence for students. This promotion/retention policy describes the standards our students must meet in order to maintain academic excellence and to be considered for promotion from one grade to the next.

This policy will be applicable to all students who are in the regular school program. Students functioning in special education programs will be governed by their Individualized Education Program (IEP). The district will administer this policy fairly, equitably, and consistently in the schools.

## **Promotion**

Students in middle school are required to earn a 60 percent overall average or higher combined for the academic areas of math, language arts, science, and social studies in order to be promoted to the next grade. Students in elementary school will be promoted based on mastery of standards, as measured by overall class assessment of state standards in ELA and math.

## **Retention/Academic Assistance**

If, at the end of the school year, the student fails to perform at grade level or if assessment results show standards are not met, the school may retain the student.

A student's score on an end of year assessment may not be the sole criterion for placing the student on academic probation, retaining the student in his/her current grade, or requiring the student to attend summer school.

Final decision on student promotion/retention is based on the discretion of administration.

## **Information to Parents/Legal Guardians**

The district will distribute this promotion/retention policy to every student and parent/legal guardian at the beginning of the academic year. The district will also make every effort to educate and inform parents/legal guardians and students through newsletters, student handbooks, PTO/PTA meetings, etc.

Adopted 8/17/82; Revised 6/21/83, 5/15/84, 12/16/86, 8/13/91, 5/12/92, 9/9/97, 10/13/98, 9/14/99, 11/12/02, 10/14/03, 4/12/05, 10/14/08, 6/11/13, 2/10/15, 2/14/17

---

Legal references:

- A. S.C. Code, 1976, as amended:
  - 1. Section 59-18-500 - Academic plans for students.
  - 2. Section 59-18-1310 - Reports consolidated; submission dates.
  
- B. State Board of Education Regulations:
  - 1. R43-240 - Summer programs.
  - 2. R43-262 - Assessment program.
  
- C. State Department of Education:
  - 1. Guidelines for Academic Plans for Students.