

PROMOTION/RETENTION **(formerly Policy #5123)**

The Board recognizes that 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 chief school administrator shall direct development of and the Board shall adopt detailed regulations to govern progress of pupils through levels K-12. The regulations shall include:

- A. Standards of proficiency related to district goals and objectives and student proficiency;
- B. Standards of attendance, and provision for review of mastery;
- C. Timely efforts to help all pupils achieve acceptable levels of proficiency;
- D. Notification to parents and pupils, at appropriate times during the school year, of the pupil's progress in meeting the promotion and remediation standards;
- E. Immediate consultation with the pupil's parent or guardian if, in the teacher's judgment, there is any indication that the pupil's progress may not be sufficient to meet these standards;
- F. Procedures for parents/guardians and adult pupils to appeal promotion/retention decisions;
- G. Procedures for involving parents/guardians, teachers and students, where appropriate, to participate in the development of the policy.

Seventh and eighth grade pupils must pass all graded subjects which include Mathematics, English, Literature/Reading, Social Studies, World Languages and Science before being promoted to the next grade level. Subjects failed must be made up in summer school or pupils face retention. The Board does not guarantee that all courses will be offered each summer.

If subjects failed are not offered in summer school, the pupil is required to enroll in an approved program offered in another public school or face retention.

In grades seven and eight, students are required to pass Music and Technology courses; however, failure will not result in retention in these courses.

Seventh Grade

If a student fails these courses, he/she must:

- A. Complete an assigned project in an allotted time during the summer; and
- B. Show marked improvement in the 8th grade course (Music and Technology)

Eighth Grade

If a student fails these courses, he/she must:

- A. Complete an assigned project in an allotted time during the summer; or
- B. He/she must repeat the course in the ninth grade.

When reviewing pupils for retention, the following steps shall be taken:

- A. A conference shall be held involving the teacher, principal, child study team, and staff members who have worked with the pupil. The items to be covered shall include:

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1. Anecdotal teacher records which document factual evidence of insufficient progress;
 2. Test results;
 3. Report card grades;
 4. Other evidence of poor academic performance;
 5. Attendance records;
 6. Discipline referrals, health records, parent/guardian contact, records and conferences, and cumulative folders.
- B. A notice shall be mailed to the parents/guardians by the principal; or when applicable by the teacher as determined that the child is in danger of failing and may be required to repeat the grade.
- C. A plan which identifies a timeline for future parent/guardian contacts shall be developed by the teacher and the parent/guardian.
- D. A meeting involving parents/guardians, teachers, principal and other staff members shall take place before a final decision is rendered. The final decision shall rest with the principal.
- E. A meeting involving parents/guardians, teachers, principal and other staff members shall take place before a final decision is rendered. The final decision shall rest with the principal.

Progress reports for students in in bilingual, ESL, or English language services programs shall be made to parents/guardians on the same schedule as the reports of all pupils enrolled in the district. Progress reports shall be in writing and in both English and their primary speaking language unless doing so places unreasonable burden on the Board.

Parents/guardians will be notified whenever exceptions are contemplated in a pupil's normal progression from level to level. The final decision in all cases will rest with school authorities.

Legal References:	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:4-24	Determining efficiency of schools; report to state Board
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:7C-2	Boards of education; establishment of standards
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:11-1	General mandatory powers and duties
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:35-4.9	Pupil promotion and remediation; policies and procedures
	<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:8-4.1	Statewide assessment system
	<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:8-4.2	Documentation of student achievement
	<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:8-5.1	Graduation requirements
	<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:30-1.1 <u>et seq.</u>	Evaluation of the Performance of School Districts

Wheatley v. Board of Education of City of Burlington, 1974 S.L.D. 851

Every Student Succeeds Act, Pub. L. 114-95, 20 U.S.C.A. 6301 et seq.

Possible

Cross References:	*5113	Absences and excuses
	*5120	Assessment of individual needs
	*5124	Reporting to parents/guardians
	*6142	Subject fields
	*6142.2	English as a second language; bilingual/bicultural
	*6143	Curriculum guides
	*6145	Extracurricular activities

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- *6146 Graduation requirements
- 6146.1 Acceleration
- *6147 Standards of proficiency
- *6147.1 Evaluation of individual student performance
- *6171.1 Remedial instruction
- *6171.3 At-risk and Title 1

* Indicates policy is included in the Critical Policy Reference Manual

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