

Students

Promotion /Acceleration/Retention

Students enrolling in the elementary and middle schools will be placed by the principal at the grade level best suited to them academically, socially and emotionally.

The administration and professional staff shall establish a system of grading and reporting academic achievement to students and their parent(s) and guardian(s).

Students at the elementary and middle school levels will normally progress annually from grade to grade or level to level. To accomplish this, instruction will accommodate the varying interests and growth patterns of individual students and will include strategies for addressing academic deficiencies when needed. Students shall progress through the grade levels by demonstrating growth in learning and by meeting grade-level standards of expected student achievement.

Exceptions may be made when, in the judgment of the certified staff, retention or acceleration are in the best interest of the students involved. If an exception is made, there will be prior notification and explanation to the student's parent(s) or guardian(s), but the final decision will be that of the principal.

If retention or acceleration appears to be a possibility at the elementary and middle school levels, the following guidelines should be considered:

- The Student Assistance Team or Child Study Team will review the performance of any student when it is determined that the student might be considered for possible retention or acceleration.
- The principal, teacher or guidance counselor shall arrange a conference with the student's parent(s) or guardian(s) to discuss the issue with them.
- Student work will be monitored and the final decision to retain or accelerate will be determined.
- The student will, at all times, be guided toward an understanding of his/her strengths and weaknesses based upon sound reasoning.
- Notification of the decision to retain or accelerate will be sent via certified letter to the parent(s) or guardian(s).

Certain cases might require other than the routine procedures outlined above. These shall be considered exceptions and dealt with in a manner deemed best by the building principal. The principal shall consider academic performance as the primary basis for promotion.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

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

Students

Promotion /Acceleration/Retention (continued)

10-221(b) Boards of education to prescribe rules.

10-265g Summer reading programs required for priority school districts.
Evaluation of summer reading level. Personal reading plans.

10-2651 Requirements for additional instruction for poor performing students in
priority school districts; exemption. Summer school required; exemption.

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EASTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS