



Renaissance Academy

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No.215
SECTION: Pupils
TITLE: Promotion and Retention
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Promotion and Retention

1 PURPOSE

The Board of School Trustees recognizes that the emotional, social, physical and growth of students will vary and that students should be placed in the setting most appropriate to their needs at the various stages of their growth.

2 AUTHORITY

It is the policy of the Board that each student shall be moved forward in a continuous pattern of achievement and growth that corresponds with his/her own development and the system of grade levels and academic standards established for each grade.

A student shall be promoted when he/she has successfully:

1. Completed the course requirements at the presently assigned level
2. Achieved the academic standards established for the present level based on professional judgment of his/her teachers and the results of assessment.
3. Demonstrated proficiency to move ahead to the program of the next level.
4. Demonstrated to the degree of social, emotional, and physical maturation necessary for a successful learning experience at the next learning level.

SC 1531, 1532 Title 22 Sec. 4.42

3 DELEGATION OF RESPONSIBILITY

The CEO or designee shall develop procedures for promotion and retention of students which assure that every effort will be made to remediate the student's difficulties before he/she is retained.

The recommendation of the classroom teacher/teachers shall be required for promotion or retention of a student.

Parents shall be informed well in advance of the possibility of retention of a student.

The Principal, or designee, shall be assigned the final responsibility for determining the promotion or retention of each student.

4 DEFINITIONS

“Retention in grade level” and “failure” causing retention in grade level are NOT synonymous in concept. Retention in grade level implies that a pupil is receiving instruction appropriate to his “ability” to learn and “perform”, although the instructional level may be significantly below the expected “average” norm. For example, a first grader at the end of the school year may be receiving instruction in reading at a pre-primer level, and performing satisfactorily. However, that pupil may be a candidate for retention in grade level because he or she has not completed enough of the first grade program to conjecture success in second grade. The pupil’s second year in the same grade would continue at the point in which instruction terminated the first year. “Failure” connotes completing a program unsatisfactorily. Renaissance employees shall exercise all available options not to place a pupil in a setting where failure is predictable. As a pupil matures and likewise demands more independence, he/she may choose not to comply with minimal standards of mandated program, although he/she has evidenced that his/her performance could be satisfactory. All effort shall be directed toward changing the “attitudes” that have led to failure.

5 GUIDELINES

CRITERIA FOR PROMOTION AND NON-PROMOTION – PRIMARY, ELEMENTARY AND INTERMEDIATE ACADEMIES (K-6)

Promotion

Standard policy of Renaissance Academy shall be to promote a pupil to the next grade level if, in the judgment of the teacher(s), the pupil’s achievement and performance have been satisfactory at the expected level of learning and if the higher grade level is more easily able to accommodate the pupil at the appropriate level of instruction. A student will be promoted to the next grade level if that student has met the following requirements:

Primary Academy – students must earn a trimester grade of Meets or Exceeds in each core academic class (Math, Reading/Language Arts, Writing, Science, Social Studies) for all three trimesters AND earn a final grade of Meets or Exceeds in each core academic class, AND/OR not receive a trimester grade of Below for two trimesters in each core academic class.

Elementary and Intermediate Academies – students must earn a trimester grade of 60% or higher in each core academic class (Math, Reading/Language Arts, Writing, Science, Social Studies World Language) for all three trimesters or have an overall average for all three trimesters (final grade) of 60% or higher for each core academic class.

Retention

A pupil is retained for a second year in the present grade level, ***if in the judgement of the teacher(s) and in consultation with the appropriate members of the professional staff, it is believed that the pupil can benefit by the retention***

and if that present grade level can best accommodate the pupil at the appropriate level of instruction.

- Factors to be considered in retention/failure of pupils
 - Mental potential
 - Achievement/Performance
 - Attitude/Interest
 - Chronological age
 - Development-physical, emotional, social
 - Previous retention

If a kindergarten through 6th grade student meets the retention criteria listed below, he/she will be retained in their current grade level

- Primary Academy – if a student earns a trimester grade of Below for two (2) or more trimesters in two core academic classes (Math, Reading/Language Arts, Writing, Science, Social Studies) OR a final grade of Below for two or more core academic classes.
- Elementary & Intermediate Academies – if a student earns a trimester grade of 59% or lower for two (2) or more trimesters in two core academic classes (Math, Reading/Language Arts, Writing, Science, Social Studies, World Language) OR if a student's overall average for all three trimesters (final grade) is 59% or lower in two or more core academic classes.

If a 6th grade student fails one core academic class, he/she must repeat the grade the next year or enroll in the home district/online summer school program. If a student chooses to enroll in the home district summer school program, they must produce official verification of completion with a passing grade to the administration of Renaissance Academy.

Schedule for Reporting Promotions/Retentions

1. First Trimester
 - a. SLC (Report Card)
 - b. Parent/Guardian Conference
2. Second Trimester
 - a. SLC
 - b. Parent-teacher conference shall be held for each pupil reported.
 - c. When necessary, reports on pupils enrolling during the second trimester are to be made as soon as possible.
3. Third Trimester
 - a. Decisions on promotions and retentions will be made during house team meetings and/or conjunction with input from administration and additional staff members who see the student on a regular basis to ensure greater uniformity of decisions on promotions and retentions.
 - b. The teacher will note on the SLC that the student in question is being considered for retention.
 - c. Parent-Teacher conference will be held.
 - d. An official letter from the Principal, or designee, will be sent to the parents confirming the non-promotion prior to the end of the school year.

CRITERIA FOR PROMOTION AND RETENTION – MIDDLE SCHOOL (7-8)

A student will be promoted if that student has successfully completed all core academic classes (Math, English Language Arts, Social Science, and Science). Students failing a core academic class must repeat the grade the next year or enroll in the home district/online summer school program. If a student chooses to enroll in the home district summer school program, they must produce official verification of completion with a passing grade to the administration of Renaissance Academy.

Failing grades will be communicated to parents/each trimester on the SLC and during conferences.

Students who are in jeopardy of failing any of the required core academic courses will be placed in to the RtII process. Any student who is in jeopardy of failing a core academic class will have that noted on the 2nd trimester SLC. Once grades are finalized, the teacher, counselor or principal will notify the parents of official course failure and summer school/recovery options.

CRITERIA FOR PROMOTION AND RETENTION – HIGH SCHOOL (9-12)

A student will be promoted if that student has successfully completed all core academic classes (Math, English Language Arts, Social Science, World Language and Science). Students failing a core academic class must repeat the class the next year or enroll in the home district/online summer school program. If a student chooses to enroll in the home district summer school program, they must produce official verification of completion with a passing grade to the administration of Renaissance Academy by a pre-approved date prior to the start of the following school year.

Failing grades will be communicated to parents/guardians each trimester on the SLC.

Students who are in jeopardy of failing any of the required core academic courses will be placed in to the RtII process. Any student who is in jeopardy of failing a core academic class will have that noted on the 2nd trimester SLC. Once grades are finalized, the teacher, counselor or principal will notify the parents of official course failure and summer school/recovery options.

ACCELERATION

The Principal, or designee, is authorized to establish rules and regulations permitting acceleration.