

PROMOTION, PLACEMENT, AND RETENTION

It is the policy of the Board to require that the academic, social and emotional welfare of students be given serious attention when a grade level or program promotion, placement, or retention is to be made. Grade level or program assignment will be made without regard to race, sex, religion, belief, national origin, or ethnic group.

Promotion, placement, or retention of students shall be made in the best interests of the student after a careful evaluation of all factors relating to the advantages and disadvantages of the alternatives.

The principal's decision, with appropriate input from the professional staff and parents/guardians, concerning a student's promotion, placement, or retention will be final.

Elementary School

Students who have shown a lack of progress in the acquisition of basic skills and other learning experiences will be identified by the staff and Principal by the end of the 2nd reporting period. A conference with the parents/guardian regarding the student's lack of progress will be initiated by appropriate school personnel at this time.

Promotion, placement, or retention of students shall be made in the best interests of the student after consideration of the following:

- A. Academic Aptitude/Achievement - A comparison of a student's academic aptitude and current level of achievement.
- B. Social and Emotional Maturity - A student whose social and emotional development is such that he/she would be unable to relate effectively to and interact with other students assigned to the grade level.
- C. Physical Growth - A student whose physical size and development is such that retention would result in the student being significantly larger than the other students.
- D. Age - A student whose age is such that retention would result in the student being considerably older than the other students.
- E. Attendance Pattern - An evaluation of the student's absences should be conducted to determine the effect on his/her progress.
- F. Teacher Judgment - Students will be considered for retention in grades (1-3) if they are functioning more than 1 grade level below grade in reading and math. Students will be considered for retention in grades (4-6) if they are functioning more than 2 grade levels below grade in reading and math. The teacher will make this determination based upon standardized test scores and classroom observation.

- G. Other Factors - The principal and professional staff should consider any other unusual factors they feel appropriate.

When a child is retained, the principal should present a written notification to the parent and Supervisor of Instruction.

A student in a departmentalized program, grades five (5) through eight (8), can fail no more than one (1) subject/course to be considered for promotion to the next grade level. The student must pass English, math, and either science or social studies to be considered for promotion to the next grade. A final passing grade will be based on a yearly average.

Secondary

Credits required for graduation from the Winston County School System are as follows:
2001 – 25; 2002 – 25; and 2003 – 26. Beginning 2004, 24 credits will be required due to a change from trimester to semester scheduling.

The minimum number of credits necessary to be promoted from one grade to the next is as follows:

<u>Grade Level</u> <u>thereafter</u>	<u>Year 2002</u>	<u>Year 2003</u>	<u>Year 2004 and</u>
Grade 10	6 credits	6 credits	6 credits
Grade 11	14 credits	14 credits	12 credits
Grade 12	19 credits	20 credits	17 credits

Exceptions to these requirements; may be made only when a facility change is involved. The following criteria should be considered in making exceptions:

1. Particular courses passed including those required for graduation.
2. Age and maturity of the students.
3. At which campus the student can be most appropriately scheduled.
4. Other programs in which the student may be interested and has experienced some success.

When an exception is granted, the principal should present a written notification to the parent/guardian and the Supervisor of Instruction.

The decision of the principals, with appropriate input from the professional staff and parents/guardians, concerning a student's promotion, placement, or retention will be final.

SOURCE: Winston County Board of Education, Double Springs, AL

ADOPTED: Sep. 26, 1989; REVISED: July 7, 1998; July 6, 2000; July 11, 2002; April 22, 2004

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