
Board Policy

Promotion and Retention

Descriptor Code: IHE

The Board of Education ("The Board") shall require all schools governed by its authority to abide by the State Board of Education Rule 160-4-2-.11, which specifies how the state-adopted assessments administered in grades 3, 5, and 8 will be used in making promotion, placement, and retention decisions for students once the Georgia Milestones Assessment Program is fully implemented by the State Board of Education.

The Board hereby authorizes each school to develop procedures or regulations that specify how the state-adopted assessments and what local promotion criteria will be used in making decisions concerning promotion, placement, or retention of students in Grades 1, 2, 4, 6, and 7, (and for students in grades 3, 5, and 8 in years when reliance on state-adopted assessments has been waived). Such procedures or regulations must be approved by the Superintendent or designee(s) and shall provide for the following:

1. Each teacher shall be responsible for determining through a variety of assessments whether a student appears to be on grade level or achieving at a level which, with accelerated, differentiated, or additional instruction or interventions, which allow the student to perform at grade level by the conclusion of the subsequent school year.
2. All students in grades K-5 must pass Reading/English Language Arts, Math, and one of the following: Social Studies or Science on his/her final report card to be promoted.
3. All students in grades 6-8 must pass four of the five required subjects on his/her final report card to be promoted. The five required subjects are the following: English Language Arts, Math, Social Studies, Science, and Connections.
4. Where the teacher believes the student is not performing at such level, the teacher must implement remediation efforts as set forth in regulations or procedures.
5. A mechanism shall be established whereby a school level team will review a student's performance prior to any decision to retain the student.
6. Prior to a student's retention, the student's parents must be notified of the possibility of retention and given the opportunity to attend a meeting to discuss the matter.
7. School level promotion and retention decisions shall be final and not subject to further appeal.