

GRADE ADVANCEMENT IMPLEMENTATION PROCEDURES - KINDERGARTEN

Pursuant to statutory changes in Wisconsin law relative to mandatory completion of a 5-year-old-Kindergarten program prior to enrolling in First Grade, the Rice Lake Area School District has adopted policy that requires compliance with the requirements. Those requirements include the student's progress on end of the year standards; the student's academic performance; the recommendation of teachers, which shall be based solely on the student's academic performance; and any other academic criteria specified by the Board of Education.

PROMOTION

A student may not be promoted from Kindergarten to First Grade unless the student satisfies the following criteria:

1. Academic Performance Criteria:

- a. Earns a score of two (2) or three (3) in the academic areas of language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies on the kindergarten standards-based report card.
- b. If students with disabilities meet the IEP goals or English Language Learners meet the IRP (Individual Record Plan) goals.

If the student meets the Academic Performance Criteria, the student will be promoted to the next grade. If the student does not meet the Academic Performance Criteria, the student must meet the Teacher Recommendation Criteria.

2. Other Academic Criteria:

By the end of the first trimester of the school year, the classroom teacher shall notify the building principal and the parents/guardians of any possible grade retention concerns. At this time, the building principal will convene a grade advancement team that will consist of the building principal, the classroom teacher, the school counselor, the school psychologist, academic interventionists, and parents. The team may also involve other district personnel as needed. Parents/guardians shall be included in the discussions leading to a decision.

Considerations for the grade advancement team include:

- Analyzing current intervention data and considering changes
- Student performance on other standardized or district level assessment data
- Student performance on classroom work
- The possibility that the student has an educational disability

By May 1, the grade advancement team shall discuss a preliminary decision for grade retention or promotion.

DECISION/APPEAL PROCESS

By June 1, the grade advancement team shall make a final recommendation for grade retention or promotion. By June 8, in the event that parents/guardians are not in agreement with the grade advancement team's placement decision, they may appeal, in writing, to the

District Administrator. Within two weeks of receiving the appeal, the District Administrator will issue a final decision after meeting with the parents/guardians and reviewing the decision of the grade advancement team.

3. Teacher Recommendation Criteria:

- a. In the event that the student does not meet the criteria in Step One, the student must then meet the Teacher Recommendation Criteria for his/her Grade level to be promoted to the next Grade.
- b. Kindergarten: the criteria to be considered may include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - i) Other standardized test scores
 - ii) Student academic performance portfolio
 - iii) Student success in classroom work
 - iv) Consideration of overall development

If the student meets the Teacher Recommendation Criteria, the student will be promoted to the next Grade. If the student does not meet the Teacher Recommendation Criteria, the student must meet the Other Academic Criteria defined in Level Three.

4. Students with Disabilities

A student enrolled in a program for students with disabilities will be promoted to the next grade level providing the student meets the criteria for promotion outlined in this policy or is making progress toward goals and objectives stated in the student's individualized education program (IEP).

5. Exemption Criteria

A Board of Education that operates a 5-year-old Kindergarten program shall enroll in the first grade a child who has not completed Kindergarten but who is otherwise eligible to be admitted to and to enroll in first grade as a new or continuing pupil at the time the child moves into this state if one of the following applies:

- a. Before either commencing or completing first grade, the child moved into this state from a state, country, or territory in which completion of 5-year-old Kindergarten is a prerequisite to entering first grade and the child was exempted from the requirement to complete 5-year-old Kindergarten in the state, country, or territory from which the child moved.
- b. Before either commencing or completing first grade the child moved into this state from a state, country, or territory in which completion of 5-year-old Kindergarten is not a prerequisite to entering first grade.

Adopted: 06/14/10
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