

### Promotion, Retention and Acceleration of Students

In order to assist all students in meeting the State Learning Results and the District's Content Standards and Performance Indicators, it is the intent of the District that appropriate instruction is offered to all students in a progressive and sequential way. Therefore, the grade placement of each student will be made on an individual basis, understanding that the level of instruction at each grade is not a single level of instruction but rather a series of levels intended to meet the various needs of students assigned to that grade level. Every effort shall be made to provide the support services needed by students during regular school hours, during the school year, however, more time and extra support shall be offered to students, as appropriate and reasonable, to help them meet the Learning Results or the District's Content Standards and Performance Indicators. Students may be required to participate in these service offerings.

As far as possible, retention will be decided through conferences involving the principal, teachers and parents. The guidance counselor will participate as appropriate. Parents will be notified as early as possible that retention is being considered, and except in very unusual circumstances no later than March 15. The principal shall be responsible for making the final decision as to retention or acceleration, and assignment. Parents dissatisfied with this decision may appeal to the Superintendent.

The following criteria shall be utilized in making decisions concerning promotion and retention:

- A. Student achievement assessed against District's Content Standards and Performance Indicators;
- B. Attendance;
- C. Health;
- D. Maturity;
- E. Physical size;
- F. Age in relation to grade placement;
- G. Student attitude;
- H. Parent/Guardian concerns;
- I. Out-of-school influences; and
- J. Program options.

Any necessary retention should take place as early in a student's educational career as possible. Only in unusual circumstances should a child be retained more than once.

**Legal Reference: CH. 125 and 127 (Maine Dept. of Ed. Rules)**

**Cross Reference: IK – Academic Achievement**

**IKEA – Placement of Students**  
**IKF – Graduation Requirements**  
**ILA – Local Assessment System**

**Adopted:**

**May 7, 2001**

**Revised:**

**February 3, 2004**