

Promotion & Retention of Students

ELEMENTARY- PROMOTION, RETENTION, AND DEMOTION OF STUDENTS

I. Kindergarten

Students normally spend one year in kindergarten and are promoted to first grade at the end of the year. In some instances, individual students may profit by special education placement or by a second year in kindergarten. In these instances, principals and teachers may make this recommendation to parents or guardians. Because of Nevada School Law concerning first grade entrance age, parents' or guardians' consent is needed before this recommendation can be executed.

II. Grades 1, 2, 4, and 5

1. The general practice is that students are promoted to the next grade at the end of the school year. However, progress should be continuous and student advancement through the curriculum should be according to the student's demonstrated ability rather than the student's age or years in school. The school principal is responsible for standard promotion of students.
2. Double promotions may be made in exceptional circumstances in light of such factors as the child's age, achievement scores, measured ability, effort and attitude, physical and emotional maturity, and parents' or guardians' attitude and support. Principals are responsible for the final decision regarding double promotions within their school, but parental or guardian consent must be obtained and teachers must be consulted prior to the decision, and where the double promotion would affect two sites, the movement must be done in consultation with the receiving school's principal.
3. A student may be demoted to the next lower grade in exceptional circumstances in light of such factors as the child's age, achievement scores, measured ability, effort and attitude, and physical and emotional maturity. Demotion must be approved by the principal, the sending teacher, and the parents or guardians.
4. Before any student may be retained in the same grade rather than promoted, the student's teacher and principal must make a reasonable effort to arrange a meeting with the parents or guardians to discuss the reasons and circumstances. Cumulated absences of twenty (20) days or more, both approved and unapproved, will be one of the considerations for retention. The teacher and principal, in joint agreement, have the final authority to retain a student. In the absence of final agreement between teacher and principal, the student will not be retained. No student may be retained more than one time in the same grade.

III. Grade 3

Pursuant to Read by Grade 3 legislation, students in the third grade must demonstrate proficiency in reading prior to being promoted to fourth grade. Students that fail to demonstrate proficiency, as measured by a passing score on the criterion-referenced state examination in the subject of

reading, will be retained in third grade. The Executive Director of the school may authorize a Good Cause Exemption pursuant to Table 1, below. School administration shall develop an intervention plan for students that are retained in third grade as a result of this policy prior to the commencement of the following school year.

Table 1. Read by Grade 3 Good-Cause Exemptions (SB 391- 2015)

Read by Grade 3 Good-Cause Exemptions (SB 391- 2015)
Any student is eligible for a good-cause exemption from a Read by Grade 3 retention decision if he/she:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demonstrates an acceptable level of proficiency on an alternative standardized assessment approved by the State Board
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demonstrates proficiency in reading at grade level (through a portfolio of their work that indicates a mastery of the state standards) .
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is limited English proficient & has received less than 2 years of instruction in a program of English as a second language
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • has received intensive remediation in reading for 2 or more years but still demonstrates a deficiency in reading
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • was previously retained in kindergarten or grade 1 or grade 2 for a total of 2 years .
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is a student with a disability and his/her individualized education program (IEP) indicates that his/her participation in this exam is not appropriate
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is a student with a disability who: participates in the exam, has received intensive remediation in reading for 2 or more years but is still demonstrating deficiency in reading, or he/she was previously retained in kindergarten or grades 1, 2 or 3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • has been previously retained in grade 3 (under this circumstance, he/she must receive a good-cause exemption)

MIDDLE SCHOOL - PROMOTION, RETENTION, AND DEMOTION OF STUDENTS

I. Grade 8

According to Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 389.445 students must complete one and one half credits(1.5) in mathematics by the end of their eighth grade year. Students must complete one and one half total credits(1.5) in English by the end of the eighth grade year. Students must complete one full(1) credit by the end of their eighth grade year in science. Students must complete one full credit(1) by the end of the eighth grade year in social studies. A half a credit is equal to one semester. If all of these requirements have been met, students may be promoted to high school.

High School Academic Probation

Although a student may be promoted to high school on academic probation, summer school credit retrieval is recommended to improve academic skills and to prepare for success in high

school. Successful completion of required summer school courses may remove a student from academic probation in high school.

An eighth grade student who has not met the promotion requirements may be promoted to the ninth grade on academic probation provided at least one of the following criteria has been met:

1. Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) scores meet or exceed standards in ALL of the area (s) of credit deficiency; OR
2. Credits have been earned in ALL of the core area (s): English, mathematics, social studies, and science; however if the student is deficient ONLY half a credit out of the 5 total credits required for promotion: OR
3. A student reaches the age of 16 (sixteen) on or before the final school day of the year in which the student would otherwise be retained.

High school remediation will consist of the appropriate remediation in the subject area(s) in which the student failed to pass in middle school.

An eighth grade student not meeting criteria for promotion to 9th grade, and not meeting the criteria for academic probation may be retained in the eighth grade for the following school year without limitation. A retained eighth grade student may not be promoted to high school mid year.

II. Grade 7

Pupils enrolled in grade 7 must complete one half credit(.5) with a passing grade in English, one half credit(.5) with a passing grade in Mathematics , one half credit(.5) with a passing grade in social studies and one half credit(.5) with a passing grade in science for promotion to 8th grade.

Students who are credit deficient in any of these classes will be required to participate in summer school to make up credit deficiency.

III. Grade 6

Pupils enrolled in grade 6 must complete one half credit(.5) with passing grade in English, one half credit(.5) with passing grade in mathematics, one half credit(.5) with a passing grade in science.

* Retention of pupil in same grade will be based upon the joint agreement of the pupil's teacher and Principal.