

Students

Promotion/Acceleration/Retention

The Board of Education expects students to progress through each grade level within one school year. Toward this end, instruction shall be designed to accommodate the variety of ways that students learn and provide strategies for addressing academic deficiencies as needed.

Students shall progress through grade levels by demonstrating growth in learning and meeting grade-level standards of expected student achievement.

A. Promotion and Non-Promotion

Teachers shall identify students who should be retained or who are at risk of being retained at their current grade level as early as possible in the school year and as early in their school careers as practicable.

1. Promotion will be primarily based on evidence that students meet established subject and grade level academic standards and other established measures of success.
2. Students may not be retained in Transitional Kindergarten. Students who participate in Transitional Kindergarten may not be retained at any time in Grades K-6 if retention would cause the student to exceed the maximum age of 13 years 6 months of age at the completion of 6th grade.
3. Students who attend Transitional Kindergarten are eligible to continue in kindergarten the following school year. Students who attend Transitional Kindergarten are not eligible to attend first grade the following year.
4. Teachers shall identify students who should be retained or who are at risk of being retrained at their current grade levels at the following grade levels: (Education Code 48070.5)
 - a. Between grades 2 and 3
 - b. Between grades 3 and 4
 - c. Between grades 4 and 5
 - d. Between the end of the intermediate grades and the beginning of the middle school grades

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- e. Between the end of the middle school grades and the beginning of the high school grades
5. Students shall be identified for retention on the basis of failure to meet minimum levels of proficiency, as indicated by grades and the following additional indicators of academic achievement:
 - a. Students between grades 2 and 3 and grades 3 and 4 shall be identified primarily on the basis of their level of proficiency in reading.
 - b. Proficiency in reading, English Language arts, and mathematics shall be the basis for identifying students between grades 4 and 5, between intermediate and middle school grades, and between middle school grades and high school grades. (Education Code 48070.5)

If a student does not have a single regular classroom teacher, the Superintendent or designee shall specify the teacher(s) responsible for the decision to promote or retain the student. (Education Code 48070.5)
 6. The teacher's decision to promote or retain a student may be appealed in accordance with AR 5123 - Promotion/Acceleration/Retention.
 7. When a student in grades 2-9 is retained or recommended for retention or is identified as being at risk for retention, the Superintendent or designee shall offer an appropriate program of remedial instruction to assist the student in meeting grade-level expectations. (Education Code 48070.5)
- B. Acceleration - When high academic achievement is evident, the teacher may recommend a student for acceleration to a higher grade level. The student's maturity level shall be taken into consideration in making a determination to accelerate a student. Acceleration is defined as the advancement of a student beyond the grade level or course that the student would be usually expected to take.

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Legal Reference: Education Code Sections 46300; 48010; 48011; 48070-48070.5; 56345;
60640-60649
Code of Regulations, Title 5, Sections 200-202

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