

CLIFFSIDE PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY GUIDE

STUDENTS
5410 PROMOTION AND RETENTION (M)

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The Board of Education recognizes that each child develops and grows in a unique pattern and that students should be placed in the educational setting most appropriate to their social, physical, and educational needs. Each student enrolled in this district shall be moved forward in a continuous program of learning in harmony with his/her own development.

Standards for student promotion shall be related to the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards and district goals and objectives and to the accomplishments of students. A student in the elementary grades will be promoted to the next succeeding grade level when he/she has completed the course requirements at the presently assigned grade; has achieved the instructional objectives set for the present grade; has demonstrated the proficiencies required for movement into the educational program of the next grade; and has demonstrated the degree of social, emotional, and physical maturation necessary for a successful learning experience in the next grade.

Promotion policies and procedures will be provided to parent(s) or legal guardian(s) as appropriate. Parent(s) or legal guardian(s) and students shall be regularly informed during the school year of the student's progress toward meeting promotion standards. A teacher who determines that a student's progress may not be sufficient to meet promotion standards shall notify the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) and the student and offer immediate consultation to the student's parent(s) or legal guardian(s). Every effort shall be made to remediate a student's deficiencies before retention is recommended. The parent(s) or legal guardian(s) and, where appropriate, the student shall be notified of the possibility of the student's retention at grade level in advance and, whenever feasible, no later than four (4) weeks prior to the end of the school year.

School attendance shall be a factor in the determination of a student's promotion or retention. Only extenuating circumstances should permit the promotion of a student who has been in attendance fewer than 150 days during the school year.

Classroom teachers shall recommend to the Building Principal the promotion or retention of each student. Parent(s) or legal guardian(s) and adult students may appeal a promotion or retention decision to the **Superintendent** whose decision shall be final.

Retention and Summer School Policy for K-5 Grade Students

1. Summer school will be **RECOMMENDED** for any student who does not pass English Language Arts and/or Mathematics. Students who do not attend summer school may be denied promotion (retained) at the discretion of the principal or superintendent.

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Retention and Summer School Policy for Grade 6

1. Summer school will be **REQUIRED** for any student who fails English Language Arts and/or Mathematics. A conference with the Principal and parent is mandatory. If a student does not attend or complete the required summer school, the student may be denied promotion (retained) by the principal or superintendent.
2. If a student fails Science and/or Social Studies summer school is **RECOMMENDED**. A conference with the Principal and parent is mandatory.
3. Students who fail **three (3) subjects** (Language Arts, Mathematics, Science or Social Studies) will be **RETAINED** in 6th grade. A conference with the Principal and parent is mandatory.

Retention and Summer School Policy for Grades 7-8

1. Failure in a major course will affect promotion and/or graduation. Any student who fails a class in: English (ELA), Mathematics, Science or Social Studies will be required to attend an approved summer school program. Failure to attend summer school and earn a passing grade will result in retention. Students who fail more than two major subjects are ineligible for summer school and will be retained. Eighth grade students who do not meet the above criteria will not be permitted to participate in the graduation ceremony.
2. Failure in one or more full year elective courses including Spanish and its paired course will require the student to complete and pass a general elective course during the summer. Eighth grade students who fail one or more full year elective courses will not be permitted to participate in the graduation ceremony and must fulfill summer school obligations to move on to grade 9. Seventh grade students who fail one or more full year elective courses will not be permitted to participate in any co-curricular events or athletic team during grade 8 if they do not fulfill their summer school obligations.

Revised: February 21, 2018

N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.9

Cross reference: Policy Guide No. 5200

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[See POLICY ALERT No. 153]

The following rules are promulgated in accordance with the policy of the Board of Education dealing with the promotion and retention of students.

A. Standards for Student Promotion

Elementary and Intermediate Grades (PreK-8) - A student will be promoted to the next succeeding grade level when he/she demonstrates the proficiencies required for movement into the next grade.

High School (9-12) - A student will be promoted to the next grade when he/she has completed, in the current school year, the number of credits required for that grade as indicated in the current High School Student Handbook.

B. Procedures for Student Promotion

1. A written copy of promotion standards will be given to all parent(s) or legal guardian(s) and students at the beginning of each year.
2. Parent(s) or legal guardian(s) and students will be provided a minimum of three reports each year as to a student's progress towards meeting promotion standards.
3. Teachers who determine that a student's progress may not be sufficient to meet promotion standards shall notify the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of the student and offer consultation with the parents or legal guardians.
4. In grades PreK-8, the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) and where appropriate the student will be notified no later than four weeks prior to the end of the year when the possibility of a student not being promoted is determined.
5. A student with fewer than 150 days attendance in grades PreK-8 will not be promoted to the next grade level. In grades 9-12 the attendance policy in effect and published in the High School Handbook will be followed.

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6. Extenuating circumstances as determined by the Building Principal can waive the 150-day attendance requirements for grades PreK-8. In the high school, an attendance appeal route is available for students whose attendance is in excess of the regulations specified in the attendance policy.
 7. Classroom teachers shall provide input to the Principal who makes the final decision concerning the promotion or retention of each student.
- C. Procedure for Retention or Social Promotion
1. Grades PreK-8 - Classroom teachers must initiate the process by providing to the Building Principal complete forms in accordance with the specified timelines.
 2. The Principal will review each case and in consultation with the teacher render a final decision.
 3. Parent(s) or legal guardian(s) and adult students may appeal a promotion/retention decision to the Superintendent whose decision is final.

Adopted: February 21, 2018