

Grade Advancement or Nonstandard Student Placement

Requests for a student to be considered for placement or advancement to a higher grade may be initiated by the student's Fern Ridge School District Teacher or the student's parents or guardian. A Nonstandard placement request generated by the student's teacher(s) shall be reviewed by the resident principal and if sufficient performance data validates the placement parental/guardian approval will be sought.

If parents (not the teacher) wishes their child to be considered for advancement to a higher grade they will fill out an application. The district will employ a standardized instrument(s) administered and interpreted by professional educators trained to understand and evaluate student growth and development. The District may also utilize standards based performance exams designed by highly qualified district staff. Results of the testing will be shared with the parent(s) or guardians by a qualified staff member(s).

Steps in Applying for Grade Advancement

1. Parent or Guardian must initiate a request with the principal of their child's respective school by completing the application and meeting with the principal or their designee.
2. Student(s) are to be tested to determine that they are academically ready for the proposed grade. Presently the District administers the Woodcock-Johnson Tests of Achievement Third Edition (WJ III) or may use other equivalent standardized test. Emotional social/readiness will also be a factor in the decision based on teacher/parent input.
3. If parents are initiating request, parents contact teacher or principal to indicate they would like their child to be tested. The average test completion time ranges from one hour to one hour and fifteen minutes. Further testing/interview(s) may be required. The child must achieve a score at or above the 85th percentile in the Broad Score areas on the Woodcock-Johnson Test of Achievement Third Edition (WJ III).
4. Test results will be shared with the parents/guardians as well as the building principal(s) involved. A written Summary of Assessment may be made available to the parents and included in the student's academic file upon a request.
5. Once the assessment results are finalized, the building principal(s) have up to 14 calendar days to compile all relevant academic potential data and social skill data upon which a final determination will be based upon. Principals are to consider whether a student is emotionally and socially adept for movement to a higher grade level. Parents/guardians and the superintendent are to be notified of the principal's decision in writing.

Note: Should the parent/guardian wish to appeal the decision he/she may contact the superintendent. The superintendent may call for further testing, the cost for which the parent or guardian will bear. After careful review of all performance as well as social/psychological data, the superintendent will make the final decision.

**APPLICATION FOR CONSIDERATION FOR ADVANCEMENT
FERN RIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Student Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

School: _____

Date of Request: _____

Initiated By: _____

Parent /Guardian Teacher

Current Grade: _____

Grade Requesting Advancement to: _____

Parent Name: _____

Phone: _____

In the space below briefly answer the following questions:

1. Why do you believe that your child should be advanced to a higher grade level?

2. In what ways would your child benefit from being advanced to a higher grade level?

3. What do you think would be the most difficult aspect of grade advancement for your child if they were advanced?

4. Please attach any school (private or public) performance records and work samples to this application.

Please give this completed form to the building principal of the school your child currently attends.