

Grants Pass School District 7

Code: **IKE**

Adopted: 6/14/88

Readopted: 2/24/04; 5/12/09; 2/08/11;
2/12/13

Orig. Code(s): IKE

Grade Level Placement

The Grants Pass School District recognizes the importance of considering the individual characteristics of each student in determining grade level placement. Ordinarily, students will benefit most by being advanced to the next grade level at the completion of each academic year. Requests to accelerate or retain a student can be made in accordance with the guidelines set out in this policy and the related procedures established by administration

After considering all input, the decision to accelerate or retain a student shall be made by the school team. The school team will include the parent(s), the principal, and the relevant teaching and specialist staff. When agreement cannot be reached by the school team, the principal has the authority to determine grade level placement. Parents may appeal a decision made at the building level to the Superintendent or a Director designated by the Superintendent.

Acceleration

Students will normally progress annually from grade to grade. An exception may be made if it is in the best interest of the student. If a member of the school team requests an exception to the normal progression, so that a student will “skip” a grade, the school team will consider the request. A student must be enrolled and attending school in order for a request to accelerate to be considered. The team will conduct a thorough review of the student’s cumulative record, any testing or records from programs such as TAG, Title I, Special Education, and any information submitted by the parent. If the principal believes additional testing is necessary, it will be completed before a decision is made.

Retention

Any member of the school team can request consideration of retention of a student. Teachers should notify the principal as early in the spring as possible regarding students who may be considered for retention. In addition, an early spring conference should be held with parents (around March 15). A school team will then consider the student’s potential retention in light of data regarding the student’s educational and social needs. The school team will conduct a thorough review of the student’s cumulative record, any testing or records from programs such as TAG, Title I, Special Education, and any information submitted by the parent. If the principal believes additional testing is necessary, it will be completed before a decision is made.

Retention is typically not regarded as an effective educational practice.

District administration is authorized to implement the necessary forms and procedures pursuant to this policy. In limited cases, the Superintendent (or his/her designee) may approve or deny a student placement request by a member of the school team if there are special circumstances which clearly indicate that the grade level placement is in the best educational interests of the student.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[OAR 581-022-1130](#)

[OAR 581-022-1670](#)