

## **Promotion and Retention of Students\*\***

The Board is dedicated to total and continuous development of each student enrolled. The professional staff are expected to place students at the grade level best suited to them academically, socially and emotionally.

### **Elementary Students**

Students will normally progress annually from grade to grade. Exceptions may be made when, in the judgment of the professional staff, such exceptions are in the best educational interest of the students involved. Exceptions will always be made after prior notification and explanation to the student's parents, but the final decision will rest with school authorities on double-promotion, and with parents on retention.

Parental decisions will be final, but when the parents' decision is not in agreement with the schools' recommendation, parents must sign a "release from liability" form to be placed in the student's file.

If a student moves in from another district and should the parents desire to move the student to a lower or higher grade, the principal will initiate a review and meet with the intervention team (iTeam) to make the placement decision. The student will not begin school until a decision is made. Students will not be retained or double-promoted without parent permission. (This provision applies to middle school students as well.)

Should a student be recommended for double-promotion, or retention, the administrative regulations will be followed.

### **Promotion from Middle School to High School**

The Board recognizes that in order for students to be successful in high school, they need to have a solid academic preparation and good work habits as they exit middle school. To that end, the Board establishes the following standards for promotion to the district. Specifically:

All middle school students enrolled in Oregon City School District must maintain a 2.0 G.P.A. and pass Mathematics and Language Arts with a 'C' grade or better. A 7th grade student who is not maintaining the Middle School Matters requirements can expect to have limited elective options during their 8th grade year.

For 8th grade students who have not maintained Middle School Matters requirements, a team of middle school and high school staff will determine the high school program placement that will best serve each student's needs. When determining a student's placement, this team will consider G.P.A., OAKS scores, attendance, work ethic, teacher recommendations, and other indicators as appropriate.

## **Special Circumstances and Appeals**

Depending on their handicapping condition, student with IEPs may be given special consideration related to promotion to high school. The building principal, the special education teacher, and a district special education administrator will review these situation as needed.

Students who fail to gain promotion to the high school and who feel the unusual circumstances affected their performance or their ability to attend summer school, may appeal to a district committee. The district committee will be comprised of the district's curriculum director and the assistant principals at the two middle schools.

## **Interventions and Communications**

If a middle school student is at risk of failing a class or falls below a 2.0 GPA, the middle school staff will utilize a set of academic and behavioral interventions designed specifically to improve the student's academic performance.

Timely communication with parents is important. Parents will be made aware, as soon as possible, if their child is at risk of not meeting promotion standards, aware of the consequences of the failure to do so and aware of the steps they can take to help their child to succeed.

END OF POLICY

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### **Legal Reference(s):**

[OAR 581-022-1130](#)

[OAR 581-022-1670](#)