

# BETHEL PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: PROMOTION AND RETENTION

ADOPTED: NOVEMBER 20, 2007

REVISED: JULY 18, 2007

215. PROMOTION AND RETENTION	
<p>1. Purpose</p>	<p>The Board recognizes that the emotional, social, physical and educational development of students will vary and that students should be placed in the educational setting most appropriate to their needs. The district will establish and maintain high standards for each grade and monitor student achievement in a continuous and systematic manner.</p>
<p>2. Authority SC 1531, 1532 Title 22 Sec. 4.42</p> <p>SC 1532 Pol. 213</p>	<p>The Board establishes that each student shall be moved forward in a continuous pattern of achievement and development that corresponds with the student's development, the system of grade levels, and attainment of the academic standards established for each grade.</p> <p>A student shall be promoted when s/he has successfully completed the curriculum requirements and has achieved the academic standards established for the present level, based on the professional judgement of the teachers and the results of assessments. A student shall earn the right to advance to the next grade by demonstrating mastery of the required skills and knowledge.</p>
<p>3. Delegation of Responsibility Title 22 Sec. 4.12, 4.13</p> <p>SC 1532</p>	<p>The Superintendent or designee shall develop procedures for promotion and retention of students which assure that every effort will be made to remediate the student's difficulties before the student is retained.</p> <p>The recommendation of the classroom teacher shall be required for promotion or retention of a student.</p> <p>The building principal shall be assigned the final responsibility for determining the promotion or retention of each student.</p>
<p>4. Guidelines</p>	<p>In all cases of retention, the parents/guardians shall be informed and fully involved throughout the process. Parents/Guardians and students shall be informed of the possibility of retention well in advance and throughout the school year.</p> <p>Recommendations for student retention will also take into account the student's age, social and emotional development, level of readiness for the grade level recommended, and any special needs of the student.</p>

Students at-risk of retention will also be discussed at an Instructional Support Team meeting or a Student Assistance Meeting to assist in determining if retention is an appropriate educational strategy.

The ultimate decision on promotion or retention will rest with the building principal.

#### Elementary (K-6)

In the elementary grades, a pupil may be retained with the recommendation of the classroom teacher. However, no pupil will be required to spend more than eight (8) years in the elementary grades (K-6)

Students who fail two (2) or more of the major subject areas (in grades K-2: integrated language arts and mathematics) and (in grades 3-4: math, integrated language arts or social studies) and (in grades 5-6: math, reading, language arts, social studies, or science) may be retained at their current grade level.

#### Middle School (7-8)

In the Middle School, if a student fails two (2) core subjects (i.e. language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, reading, or health) in a given year, he/she may be retained in the same grade unless the student makes up at least one of these deficiencies in an approved summer school during the session immediately following the close of the school year. No pupil will be required to spend more than three (3) years in the middle school.

If a student fails by only one (1) academic subject he/she will be promoted. However, a student cannot fail the same subject two (2) consecutive years without either making up the subject in summer school or retaking it in the middle school.

If the student fails 3 or more subjects (in any content area), the student may be retained.

If the student fails 3 or more of the core subjects, he/she will be retained for the year.

In all cases where students are at risk of retention, the student's case will be referred to the Student Assistance Team for review of his/her cumulative records.

The final determination of retention or promotion will rest with the principal.

Students who fail 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, or 8<sup>th</sup> grade a second time may receive a special social promotion or shall be evaluated for placement in a special class.

#### High School

Graduation requirements include consideration of subjects completed in grades 9-12. Students are classified and assigned to grade levels according to the minimum standards listed below:

Grade 9 – Satisfactory completion of the program of study in grades 7 and 8

Grade 10 – Satisfactory completion of 7 credits

Grade 11 – Satisfactory completion of 14 credits

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<p>Pol. 212, 213</p> <p>Pol. 213</p> <p>Pol. 217</p> <p>School Code 1531, 1532, 1611, 1613</p> <p>PA Code Title 22 Sec. 4.12, 4.13, 4.42</p>	<p>Grade 12 – Satisfactory completion of 21 credits by the end of grade 11 and the ability to plan a schedule that will meet requirements for graduation, which includes an additional 6 credits for a cumulative total of 27 credits for graduation.</p> <p>Academic achievement, attitude, effort, work habits, behavior, attendance and other factors related to learning shall be evaluated regularly and communicated to students and parents/guardians.</p> <p>The district shall utilize multiple measures of academic performance as determinants in promotion and retention decisions.</p> <p>Progress toward high school graduation shall be based on the student's ability to achieve the established academic standards and pass the required subjects and electives necessary to earn the number of credits mandated by the Board for graduation.</p>
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