**DODGELAND SCHOOL DISTRICT**
**Board Policy Manual**

**345.4**

# PROMOTION, ACCELERATION AND RETENTION OF STUDENTS

The promotion of students in grades kindergarten through eight is based upon the student's academic achievement and development. The educational program shall provide for the continuous progress of students from grade to grade, with students generally spending one year in each grade. On occasion, a student may need additional time in order to benefit fully from the instructional program. For such a student, retention may be considered. Teachers shall notify the principal about possible retentions by the end of the second quarter and parents/guardians shall be notified in advance.

All students are held to the same academic content standards and high expectations. When a student experiences continued difficulty in school, it is the responsibility of the teacher to keep parents/guardians informed of the problem areas and to make every effort to remediate the learning problems. Early, frequent and effective interventions shall occur based on varied and proven teaching practices and methods, a variety of assessment data, and/or referral to appropriate community resources. It is assumed that such efforts have been made by teachers before retention is considered and will continue to be made as the retention process is initiated in accordance with established district procedures.

Promotion from fourth to fifth grade and from eighth to ninth grade shall be based on a student's academic performance, teacher/principal recommendations, and other academic criteria as established by the Board. Criteria will be defined in the following way:

- Academic performance: criterion referenced assessments
- Teacher(s)/principal recommendation: report card grades
- Other academic criteria: tutoring plan and summer school remediation plan.

Some students may experience greater success through accelerated promotion. Students who demonstrate high levels of academic achievement and/or exceptional abilities may be allowed to advance a grade(s) during their elementary or middle school years. Determination of the appropriate placement of a student shall be the result of a collaborative effort involving the administration, teacher(s), parents/guardians, and the student when appropriate.

LEGAL REF.: Sections 118.001 Wisconsin Statutes
118.13
118.145
118.24(2)(a) and (3)
118.30
118.33
120.12(2)
120.13

CROSS REF.: 345.4 – Rule, K – 8 Retention Procedures
342.1, Programs for Students with Disabilities
342.3, Gifted and Talented Program
342.4, Programs for Children at Risk
342.5, Programs for Disadvantages Students (Title I)
342.62, Programs and Services for English Language Learners
342.7, Remedial Instruction
345.1, Grading Systems
345.6, Graduation Requirements
346, Testing Programs
351, Summer School
411, Equal Educational Opportunities
420, School Admissions
421, Early Admissions Policy
Special Education Handbook

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