

Student Progress Through the Grades

RSU 40 offers a planned program of instruction designed to assist students in achieving the content standards of the system of learning results for each grade span. In general, students will progress annually from grade to grade, but the Board recognizes that some students may require a shorter or longer time to reach instructional goals. Therefore, the grade placement of each student will be made on an individual basis. The Board expects school administrators and teachers to provide students with the instructional support needed to progress from grade to grade in the regular sequence whenever possible.

Effective communication with parents is critical to a student's success in school. The Superintendent, school administrators and teachers are responsible for ensuring that parents are kept informed of their child's progress through report cards, parent-teacher conferences and other appropriate means. Parents are encouraged to keep themselves informed regarding their child's progress and to inform their child's teacher(s) of any information that may impact the child's school performance.

School administrators, teachers and guidance counselors shall consider the following factors in making decisions concerning promotion, retention or acceleration of students:

- Information regarding the student from the student assessment system;
- Other indicators of academic achievement;
- Attendance;
- Motivation, attitude and behavior;
- Age;
- Program options;
- Any other issues pertinent to the particular student's school performance.

Decisions concerning special education students shall be in consultation with the IEP Team.

Parents will be notified as early as possible in the school year if their child is being considered for retention. The building administrator shall be responsible for making the decision regarding retention or acceleration in consultation with the student's parents, teacher(s) and guidance counselor. Parents dissatisfied with the building administrator's decision may appeal to the Superintendent in writing within 14 calendar days. The Superintendent shall review the matter and request further information if appropriate. The Superintendent's decision shall be final.

Cross References: IKF - Graduation Requirements

Legal References: 20-A M.R.S. §§ 4711; 4721 et seq.; 6201 et seq.
Chapters 125 and 127 (Maine Department of Education Rules)

This is a required policy.

Adopted: March 6, 1989

Revised: December 18, 2000
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December 7, 2017