

PROMOTION/ACCELERATION/RETENTION

The Governing Board expects students to progress through each grade level within one school year. Toward this end, instruction shall be designed to accommodate the variety of ways that students learn to provide strategies for addressing academic deficiencies as needed.

Students shall progress through the grade levels by demonstrating growth in learning and meeting grade-level standards of expected student achievement.

(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)

(cf. 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements)

(cf. 6146.5 - Elementary/Middle School Graduation Requirements)

(cf. 6170.1 – Transitional Kindergarten)

When high academic achievement is evident, the teacher may recommend a student for acceleration into a higher grade level. The student’s maturity level shall be taken into consideration in making a determination to accelerate a student.

Teachers shall identify students who should be retained or who are at risk of being retained at their current grade level as early as possible in the school year and as early in their school careers as practicable. Such students shall be identified at the following grade levels: (Education Code 48070.5)

1. Between grades 2 and 3
2. Between grades 3 and 4
3. Between grades 4 and 5
4. Between the end of the intermediate grades and the beginning of the middle school grades.
5. Between the end of the middle school grades and the beginning of the high school grades.

OPTION 1: Students shall be identified for retention on the basis of failure to meet minimum levels of proficiency, as indicated by grades and the following additional indicators of academic achievement.

(cf. 5121 - Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement)

OPTION 2: Students shall be identified for retention on the basis of failure to meet minimum levels of proficiency, as indicated by the results of state assessments administered pursuant to Education Code 60640-60649 and the following additional indicators of academic achievement:

(cf. 6162.5 - Student Assessment)

(cf. 6162.51 - State Academic Achievement Tests)

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Students between grades 2 and 3 and grades 3 and 4 shall be identified primarily on the basis of their level of proficiency in reading. Proficiency in reading, English language arts, and mathematics shall be the basis for identifying students between grades 4 and 5, between intermediate and middle school grades, and between middle school grades and high school grades. (Education Code 48070.5)

(cf. 6142.91 – Reading/Language Arts Instruction)

(cf. 6142.92 – Mathematics Instruction)

If a student does not have a single regular classroom teacher, the Superintendent or designee shall specify the teacher(s) responsible for the decision to promote or retain the student. (Education Code 48070.5)

The teacher’s decision to promote or retain a student may be appealed in accordance with AR 5123 – Promotion/Acceleration/Retention.

When any student in grade 2-9 is recommended for retention or is identified as being at risk of retention, the Superintendent or designee shall offer an appropriate program of remedial instruction to assist the student in meeting grade-level expectations. (Education Code 48070.5)

(cf. 6176 – Weekend/Saturday Classes)

(cf. 6177 – Summer Learning Programs)

(cf. 6179 - Supplemental Instruction)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

41505-41508 Pupil Retention Block Grant

46300 Method of computing average daily attendance

48010 Admittance to first grade

48011 Promotion/retention following one year of kindergarten

48070-48070.5 Promotion and retention

48431.6 Required systematic review of students and grading

56345 Elements of individualized education program

60640-60649 Standardized Testing and Reporting Program

60850-60859 Exit examination

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

200-202 Admission and exclusion of students

Management Resources:

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

FAQs Promotion, Retention, and Grading (students with disabilities)

FAQs Pupil Promotion and Retention

Kindergarten Continuance Form

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

Policy

MOUNTAIN UNION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

adopted: January 15, 2008

Montgomery Creek, California

Revised: September 16, 2014

PROMOTION/ACCELERATION/RETENTION

Acceleration from Transitional Kindergarten to Kindergarten

Any student who meets the age eligibility requirement, in 2014-15 school year and each school year thereafter, a child who will have his or her fifth birthday between September 2 and December 2 shall be admitted to a Transitional Kindergarten program maintained by the school district. (Education Code 48000)

(cf. 5111 – Admission)

A student may be admitted to Kindergarten at the discretion of the Superintendent or designee and with the consent of the parent/guardian upon determination that the student is ready for Kindergarten work, subject to the following minimum criteria:
(Education Code 48011; 5 CCR 200)

1. The student is at least five years of age.
2. The student has attended a public school Transitional Kindergarten for a long enough time to enable school personnel to evaluate his/her ability.
3. The student is in the upper five percent of his/her age group in terms of general mental ability.
4. The physical development and social maturity of the student are consistent with his/her advanced mental ability.
5. The parent/guardian of the student has filed a written statement with the school district approving the placement in Kindergarten.

Acceleration between Grade Levels

Any student who meets the age eligibility requirement and has completed one year of the current grade level shall be admitted to the next grade level unless the parent/guardian and the Superintendent or designee agree that the student shall continue in the current grade level. (Education Code 48010, 48011)

(cf. 5111 – Admission)

A student who does not meet the age eligibility requirement may be admitted to the next grade level at the discretion of the Superintendent or designee and with the consent of the parent/guardian upon determination that the student is ready for the next grade level work, subject to the following minimum criteria:
(Education Code 48011; 5 CCR 200)

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1. The student has attended a public school ~~kindergarten~~ for a long enough time to enable school personnel to evaluate his/her ability.
2. The student is in the upper five percent of his/her age group in terms of general mental ability.
3. The physical development and social maturity of the student are consistent with his/her advanced mental ability.
4. The parent/guardian of the student has filed a written statement with the school district approving the placement in first grade.

Continuation in Kindergarten

Whenever the Superintendent or designee and the parents/guardians agree that a student shall continue in kindergarten for an additional year, the Superintendent or designee shall secure an agreement, signed by the parent/guardian, stating that the student shall continue in kindergarten for not more than one additional school year. (Education Code 46300, 48011)

Retention at Other Grade Levels

If a student is identified as performing below the minimum standard for promotion to the next grade level based on the indicators specified in Board policy, the student shall be retained in his/her current grade level unless the student's regular classroom teacher determines, in writing, that retention is not the appropriate intervention for the student's academic deficiencies. The determination shall specify the reasons that retention is not appropriate for the student and shall include recommendations for interventions other than retention that, in the opinion of the teacher, are necessary to assist the student in attaining acceptable levels of academic achievement. (Education Code 48070.5)

(cf. 5121 – Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement)

(cf. 6162.5 – Student Assessment)

(cf. 6162.51 – State Academic Achievement Tests)

The Superintendent or designee shall identify students who should be retained or who are at risk of being retained at the following grade levels: (Education Code 48070.5)

1. Between grades 1 and 2 (Reading proficiency)
2. Between grades 2 and 3 (Reading proficiency)
3. Between grades 3 and 4 (Reading and Math proficiency)

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4. Between grades 4 and 5 (Reading, Math, and English/Language Arts proficient)
5. Between the end of the intermediate grades and the beginning of the middle school grades
6. Between the end of the middle school grades and the beginning of the high school grades

If the teacher's recommendation to promote is contingent on the student's participation in a summer school or interim session remediation program, the student's academic performance shall be reassessed at the end of the remediation program, and the decision to retain or promote the student shall be reevaluated at that time. The teacher's evaluation shall be provided to and discussed with the student's parents/guardians and the principal before any final determination of retention or promotion. (Education Code 48070.5)

(cf. 6176 – Weekend/Saturday Classes)
(cf. 6177 - Summer Learning Programs)
(cf. 6179 - Supplemental Instruction)

When a student is identified as being at risk of retention, the Superintendent or designee shall so notify the student's parent/guardian as early in the school year as practicable. The student's parent/guardian shall be provided an opportunity to consult with the teacher(s) responsible for the decision to promote or retain the student. (Education Code 48070.5)

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

Appeal

Whenever a student's parent/guardian appeals the teacher's decision to promote or retain a student, the burden shall be on the parent/guardian to show why the teacher's decision should be overruled. (Education Code 48070.5)

To appeal a teacher's decision, the parent/guardian shall submit a written request to the Superintendent or designee specifying the reasons that the teacher's decision should be overruled. The appeal must be initiated within 10 school days of the determination of retention or promotion.

The teacher shall be provided an opportunity to state orally and/or in writing the criteria on which his/her decision was based.

Within 30 days of receiving the request, the Superintendent or designee shall determine whether or not to overrule the teacher's decision. Prior to making this determination, the Superintendent or designee may meet with the appealing party and the teacher. If the

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Superintendent or designee determines that the appealing party has overwhelmingly proven that the teacher's decision should be over-ruled, he/she shall overrule the teacher's decision.

The Superintendent or designee's determination may be appealed by submitting a written appeal to the Board within 15 school days. Within 30 days of receipt of a written appeal, the Board shall meet in closed session to decide the appeal. The Board's decision may be made on the basis of documentation prepared as part of the appeal process or, at the discretion of the Board, the Board may also meet with the parent/guardian, the teacher and the Superintendent/designee to decide the appeal. The decision of the Board shall be final.

(cf. 9321 - Closed Session Purposes and Agendas)

(cf. 9321.1 - Closed Session Actions and Reports)

If the decision of the Board is unfavorable to the parent/guardian, he/she shall have the right to submit a written statement of objections which shall become part of the student's record.

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

(cf. 5125.3 - Challenging Student Records)

Regulation

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MOUNTAIN UNION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Montgomery Creek, California