

**PROMOTION/RETENTION POLICY – MIDDLE SCHOOL / HIGH SCHOOL**

Based on the assumption that each student is appropriately placed at a level where he/she is capable of completing the required work, the following applies:

1. Any student who fails three (3) core subjects may repeat the grade. (Subjects include: English, Social Studies, Mathematics, and Science. Any student who fails three (3) core subjects may not be promoted unless those subjects are passed in summer school (core subjects include: English, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies).
2. Any student who fails any two (2) core subjects may not be promoted unless both subjects are passed in summer school (Subjects include: English, Social Studies, Mathematics, and Science).
3. Any student who fails any one (1) core subject may not be promoted unless that subject is passed in summer school (Subjects include: English, Social Studies, Mathematics, and Science).

**Policy:**

- Failure is 64 or below ( 65 is passing).
- Failure of three (3) core subjects may require repeating the grade (core subjects include: English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies).
- If a student receives a 58 or below in any core subject, he/she will not qualify for summer school.
- Any failure requires a summer school grade of 65 or higher for promotion.
- Students absent for forty (40) days or more are not eligible for summer school.

If there are circumstances that warrant additional consideration, the principal shall make the final decision about placement, after consulting with the student's teacher/s and guidance counselor.

**Appeal Process:**

If a parent/guardian disagrees with the recommendation of a teacher regarding the retention of their child, the appeal process is as follows:

1. A hearing will be held with the building principal.
2. If the parent/guardian is dissatisfied with the result of the hearing with the building principal, he/she must memorialize their appeal to the Superintendent in writing by June 30<sup>th</sup> of the applicable school year.

3. Should the Superintendent uphold the principal's decision, the parent has the right to appeal to the School Committee.
4. *All appeals must take place prior to the last Friday in July of the applicable school year.*

## **PROMOTION / RETENTION POLICY – EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER / ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS**

Based on the assumption that each student at the elementary school level is appropriately placed at the level where he/she is capable of completing the required work, the following applies:

- Any student who fails two (2) or more core subjects will repeat the grade. Core subjects include English Language Arts (reading and writing), Mathematics, Science and Social Studies.

Failing is indicative of a score of 2 or below.

### **Criteria:**

- Response to Intervention (RTI) documentation
- Personal Literacy Plan (PLP) documentation
- District Assessments
- Parent notification of promotion / retention by the second trimester report card
- Truancy will be considered

### **Procedures:**

Any student who does not meet the standards in two (2) or more core subjects will repeat the grade.

Any student who scores a three (3) in two (2) or more core subjects will be monitored as follows:

- **First Trimester:** If the student does not demonstrate any academic gains, the teacher should initiate further evaluations.
- **Second Trimester:** At this time, interventions are in place and evaluated.
- **Third Trimester:** The final decision regarding promotion/retention will be determined.

If there are any circumstances that warrant additional consideration, the principal shall make the final decision about placement, after consulting with the student's teachers.

### **Appeal Process:**

If a parent disagrees with the recommendations of a teacher regarding the retention of the child, the appeal process is as follows:

1. A hearing will be held with the building principal.

2. If the parent/guardian is dissatisfied with the result of the hearing with the building principal, he/she must memorialize their appeal to the Superintendent in writing by June 30<sup>th</sup> of the applicable school year.
3. Should the Superintendent uphold the principal's decision, the parent has the right to appeal to the School Committee.
4. *All appeals must take place prior the last Friday in July of the applicable school year.*

Policy Adopted: January 12, 2016

By the Johnston School Committee