

## **IKE – ADVANCED PLACEMENT AND RETENTION OF STUDENTS**

### **Philosophy**

Grade placement should provide each child with both educational challenges and successes from school activities. Grade placement is based on the premise that each grade will provide appropriate academic, physical, emotional, and social growth.

The continuous progress approach of instruction provides for a range of abilities within a grade level. However, when a student is regarded to be at the extreme of this range, a review of grade placement may be requested by the teacher and/or parent.

District curriculum includes learning goals for each grade level. Typically, a student will spend one year in each grade level to complete these curriculum requirements. However, growth does not take place at the same pace or time for all students. Some students may achieve mastery in a shorter period of time while others may need additional time. Advanced placement and retention may be considered as methods of meeting the needs of such children.

The decision to advanced place or retain a student is very serious and developmental and academic implications must be considered. Prior to making such decisions input must be gathered from multiple sources.

### **Guidelines**

Each School Principal shall have written procedures outlining the process to be followed when a student is being considered for advanced placement or retention. The following guidelines will be considered when making these decisions.

1. Academic achievement, social and emotional development, and physical growth shall be considered. In making the decision to advanced place or retain one must ask will the student benefit from the promotion or retention.
2. No child shall be retained more than once in grades K to 8.
3. Retentions are not considered a failure or a repetition of a grade. Experiences must be provided during the period of retention that will be beneficial to the student's academic and social and emotional development consistent with continuous progress approach. One must ask what the student will be doing that is different from the first experience in the specific grade.
4. No child shall receive advanced placement more than once in grades K to 8.
5. All recommendations concerning grade placement must be made to the School Principal. The classroom teacher must notify the School Principal if he/she is considering advanced placement or retention for one of his/her students. A grade placement team will be formed to review the student data and consult with the parents.
6. Parents will be asked for their written consent to any proposed changes in regular grade placement.
7. Final authority for grade placement rests with the School Principal.

Statutory/Regulatory/Policy/Handbook Cross References

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed 306.14(d), Promoting Students Handbook (Parent/Student)

APPROVED: November 3, 2011

PREVIOUS POLICY: December 4, 1986 – Promotion and Retention of Students