	Policy No.	215
KEYSTONE OAKS SCHOOL DISTRICT	Section	PUPILS
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# Policy Guide



Title	PROMOTION AND	RETENTION
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Adopted AUGUST 21, 1989

Revised APRIL 30, 2015; APRIL 12, 2001

## PROMOTION AND RETENTION Section 1 **Purpose** The Board recognizes that the emotional, social, physical, and educational development of students will vary and that students should be placed in the educational setting most appropriate to their needs. The District will establish and maintain high standards for each grade and monitor student achievement in a continuous and systematic manner. Section 2 **Authority** The Board establishes that each student shall be moved forward SC 1531, 1532 Title 22 Sec. 4.42 in a continuous pattern of achievement and development that corresponds with the student's development, the system of grade levels, and attainment of the academic standards established for each grade. A student shall be promoted when s/he has successfully SC 1532 completed the curriculum requirements and has achieved the Pol. 213 academic standards established for the present level, based on the professional judgment of the teachers and the results of assessments.

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## Section 3 **Delegation of Responsibility**

The Superintendent or designee shall develop procedures for promotion and retention of students which assure that every effort will be made to remediate the student's difficulties before the student is retained.

Title 22 Sec. 4.12, 4.13

Parents/guardians shall be informed of their child's progress through all levels, K-12, by means of regularly scheduled conferences and periodic reports prepared by the instructor and given to the parent.

In all cases of retention, the parents/guardians shall be fully involved and informed throughout the process.

Parents/Guardians and students shall be informed of the possibility of retention or failure of a student in advance. Every effort will be made to remediate the student's difficulties before s/he is retained through age-appropriate instructional strategies to accelerate progress in the classroom.

A referral to and participation in the Student Assist Program (SAP) with proper documentation of interventions implemented will be made.

Systematic assessment strategies will be in place, such as continual progress monitoring and formative evaluation that enable ongoing modifications of instructional efforts.

There will be implementation of school-based academic and mental health supports in order to advance skills and promote social and emotional adjustment of students (i.e. Title I Reading Program, after-school tutoring, counselor services).

The recommendation of the classroom teacher(s) shall be required for promotion or retention of a student. Satisfactory completion of credit requirements shall also be required for promotion of students in grades 9-12.

SC 1532 Pol. 217

All potential retentions will be reviewed by the building principal who has the responsibility for determining the final promotion or retention of each student, in consultation with the Superintendent or designee. At that time, readiness for

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promotion and extenuating circumstances will be reviewed. Where a two-year age difference exists between the student and their grade level peers, placement will be made based on age. The decision of the Superintendent will be final.

#### **Section 4 Guidelines**

#### **Elementary and Middle School**

Recommendations for student retention will also take into account the student's age, social and emotional development, level of readiness for the grade level recommended, and any special needs of the student.

There must be a recommendation of the classroom teacher for promotion or retention.

At the middle school level, students will advance to the next grade level upon attaining a passing grade of "D" or better in at least four of five academic year-long courses. Students in Grade 8 who do not attain a passing grade of "D" or better in Reading/English and/or Mathematics will be required to attend the applicable district-operated summer program or other district-approved summer program prior to Grade 9. Failure to satisfy this minimal requirement will subject the student to retention.

#### **High School**

At the high school level, students shall be encouraged to carry a full academic schedule of classes in each school year. A credit shall be given for each subject in which the student has attained a passing grade of D or better and has been enrolled for two semesters.

Progress toward high school graduation shall be based on the student's ability to achieve the established academic standards and pass the required subjects and electives necessary to earn the number of credits mandated by the Board for graduation.

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References:	
School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 1531, 1532	
State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 4.12, 4.13, 4.42	
Board Policy – 213, 217	