

5123 PROMOTION / RETENTION

The Salisbury Board of Education is dedicated to the best total and continuous development of each student enrolled in its schools. Therefore, the District will establish and maintain the highest standards required for each grade and monitor student performance in a continuous and systematic manner. The administration and faculty shall establish a system of grading and reporting academic achievement to students and their parents and guardians. The system shall be used to determine if promotion and graduation requirements are met. The decision to promote a student to the next grade level shall be based on demonstrated and assessed successful completion of the curriculum, attendance, performance on the statewide mastery assessments and other testing instruments. Retention will be based on the combined professional judgement of the school principal, teachers, guidance counselors and/or support personnel. Retention should take place as early in a student's educational career as possible.

Students shall be promoted on the basis of academic achievement and social and emotional maturity. Students who, on the basis of objective measures of academic proficiency, can reasonably be expected to meet the instructional/learning objectives at the next educational level will be promoted.

The Board desires to minimize/eliminate the practice of promoting students to the next grade level for social reasons even though they are failing academically. The Board expects students to progress through each grade usually within one school year. To accomplish this, instruction should accommodate the varying interests and growth patterns of individual students and include strategies for addressing substantial academic deficiencies when needed. Students shall progress through the grade levels by demonstrating growth in learning and meeting objective grade-level standards of achievement. The student's readiness for work at the next grade level shall be required before he/she is promoted.

Schools are directed to identify students in danger of retention. This identification shall also include those students who fail to meet the remedial standards of the statewide assessment programs. Prior to deciding on retention for a student, the district will provide and may require the student to attend one or more alternatives for remedial assistance. Opportunities **will be** provided for supplemental and remedial instruction to assist the student in overcoming his/her academic deficiencies.

In all cases of promotion or retention, the parent/guardian is to be fully involved and informed throughout the promotion/retention decision-making process. Parents will be notified as early as possible that retention is being considered and except in very unusual circumstances, no later than March 31st. The Principal shall be responsible for making the final decision as to retention and assignment.

(cf. 5124 - Reporting to Parents)

(cf. 6146 - Graduation Requirements)

(cf. 6146.1 - Grading System)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

10-221(b) Boards of education to prescribe rules.

10-223a Promotion and graduation policies. Basic skills necessary for graduation;

assessment process

10-265g Summer reading programs required for priority school districts. Evaluation of student reading level. Personal reading plans.

10-265l Requirements for additional instruction for poor performing students in priority school districts; exemption. Summer school required; exemption (as amended by PA 99-288, PA 01-173, PA 03-174 and PA 06-135)

Approved by the Salisbury Board of Education: May 23, 2022