

DETROIT PUBLIC SCHOOLS PROMOTION POLICY

Effective School Year 2008-2009

I. INTRODUCTION

Detroit Public Schools is committed to providing a high quality education for all students with the assurance that they are gaining the knowledge and skills appropriate to their grade levels. The district is also committed to using achievement data in making decisions about additional support such as the Summer Learning Academy (SLA) program. **In accordance with the District's School Improvement Plan adopted June 16, 2002, the purpose of this policy is to provide the standards for promoting students in Grades 3, 5, and 8.**

II. STANDARDS

Effective with the beginning of the 2008-09 school year, students in Grades 3, 5, and 8 will be promoted to the next grade by meeting a combination of standards based on report card marks, test scores and attendance. The district reserves the right to annually raise standards required for qualification in each promotion category.

A. PROMOTION CATEGORIES

Category 1:

Students with MEAP performance levels in core subjects at level 1 or 2, report card marks in core subjects at or above "C" and attendance of 90 percent or better qualify for standard promotion.

Category 2:

Students with MEAP performance levels in core subjects at level 3 or 4 and report card marks in core subjects below "C" will be considered for retention.

In the summer of 2009, the Summer Learning Academy is available to 3rd, 5th, and 8th grade students who were not promoted and/or scored at performance levels 3 or 4 on the MEAP test. Transition Academy is available for eighth grade students who were promoted but scored at performance level 3 or performance level 4 on the MEAP test.

Category 3:

All other students will be considered for Promotion/SLA or retention based on the results of a required review.

B. REQUIRED CORE SUBJECTS

Grade 3: Reading, Writing and Mathematics
Grades 5 and 8: Reading, Writing, Mathematics and Science.

C. TESTS TO BE USED

MEAP test scores from the current and previous school year will be considered.

The highest MEAP performance level earned on the test for each applicable subject will be used to make the promotion decision. (see chart on back page)

D. ATTENDANCE STANDARD*

No more than 18 unexcused absences are permitted during a school year.

An unexcused absence is any absence from class for longer than 15 minutes not approved by the principal (or designee) or justified by a written statement from a parent, health care provider or a government agency.

III. PROMOTION REVIEW ELEMENTS

Students in *Category 1* will be considered for standard promotion. Students in *Category 2* will be considered for SLA/retention. Students in *Category 3* will have their status reviewed by a school team under the direction of the principal. The review elements include the following:

1. Report card marks in all core subjects
2. Attendance
3. Standardized test scores of current and prior years (i.e. MEAP and Terra Nova)
4. Consistent completion of class and homework assignments

IV. SUMMER LEARNING ACADEMY PROMOTION DECISIONS

Students required to attend SLA/RT must attend and successfully complete the summer program to be promoted to the next grade level. Based on test scores, academic achievement, and attendance in the Summer Learning Academy students will be promoted to the next grade level as follows:

Promotion decisions will be made for 3rd, 5th, and 8th graders by the summer school administrator. The decision includes consideration of school year MEAP performance level scores, Terra Nova scores, report card marks, and attendance.

*Attendance standard is 90 percent or better.

V. STUDENTS TO WHOM THIS POLICY APPLIES

This policy applies to all students in accordance with the District's School Improvement Plan, the State's plan, *Education YES*, and the national plan, *No Child Left Behind*.

STUDENTS RECEIVING SPECIALIZED SUPPORT SERVICES are expected to master the general curriculum with interventions guided and supported by the Office of Specialized Student Services. The test scores and other criteria used to determine promotion shall apply unless the Individual Education Plan (IEP) contains modifications.

BILINGUAL STUDENTS/LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENT STUDENTS are expected to master the general curriculum with interventions guided and supported by the Office of Bilingual Education and Related Programs. Test scores and the criteria used to determine promotion shall apply to ELLs unless the Bilingual Student Learning Plan (BSLP) contains modifications of criteria to be reviewed.

VI. PARENTAL NOTIFICATION

The Promotion Policy brochure will be distributed to all DPS parents. Parents will also be informed through school newsletters and appropriate translations of the Promotion Policy brochure. The policy will be posted on the DPS website. Students' progress toward meeting the standards of the Promotion Policy will be printed on student report cards.

Required Core Subjects:	Required Core Subjects:			
	Reading	Writing	Mathematics	Science
3 rd	X	X	X	
5 th	X	X	X	X
8 th	X	X	X	X

Key:

P – Promote

R – Review for Promotion, SLA, Retention or Transition

SLA – Summer Learning Academy

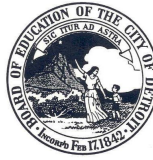
SLA/RT – Summer Learning Academy/Students will be retained if SLA requirements are not met.

RT – Retention

MEAP Levels of Performance	Composite Standard = Report Card Mark plus MEAP Levels of Performance				
	A	B	C	D	F
Level 1 – Advanced	P	P	P	R	R
Level 2 – Proficient	P	P	P	R	R
Level 3 – Partially Proficient	R	R	R	SLA/RT	SLA/RT
Level 4 – Not Proficient	R	R	R	SLA/RT	SLA/RT

Note: Students who meet the Standard may still be required to attend the Summer Learning Academy pending a review of their attendance.

In compliance with the Title VI of the Civil rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and the Americans with Disability Act of 1990, it is the policy of the Board of Education of the school district of the City of Detroit that no person shall, on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, sex, age, disability, height, weight, or marital status be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination during any program or activity or in employment. DPS Office of Civil Rights 873-7340.



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Promotion Policy

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Summer Learning Academy for Students in Grades 3, 5, and 8

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