

**District:** Okolona School District  
**Section:** I - Instructional Program  
**Policy Code:** IHE - Promotion and Retention

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## OKOLONA SCHOOL DISTRICT PROMOTION AND RETENTION

Promotion and retention shall be based upon the mastery of standards.

- The OMSSD does not grant transfers of students who have not met promotion standards:
- Students in grades 1-12 must demonstrate mastery of the subject matter for their present grade before they are promoted to the next grade; Beginning in the 2018-2019 school year, if a student's reading deficiency is not remedied by the end of the student's Third-Grade year, as demonstrated by the student scoring above the lowest two (2) achievement levels in reading on the state annual accountability assessment or on an approved alternative standardized assessment for Third Grade, the student shall not be promoted to Fourth Grade.
- Kindergarten students may be retained in Kindergarten. They will not be retained without permission of parents and reviewed by the principal.
- All students in grades 1-8 must take and pass Math, Reading, and Language Arts. Students must also pass one of the non-core subjects (Science or Social Studies) to be promoted to the next grade.
- Grades 3-8: Students who have final grades of 60-64 in Reading, Language Arts, or Mathematics and pass (basic or above) the MCT3 will be given a passing grade equivalent to a 65 for the specific subject area and may be eligible for promotion. Grades in all subjects must be established through the instructional process and evaluations that render specific grades. Pass/fail grades cannot be considered.
- Grades 9 through 12: Students in grades 9-12 will be classified in accordance with the successful completion of the following requirements:
- Grades 9-12: Students who have final class grades of 60-64 in the subject area of the SATP 3 and make passing scores on the SATP 3 will be given a unit of credit for the specific subject and a grade equivalent to 65.

Grade	Career Pathway	Promotion Pathway	Carnegie units
Ninth Grade	1	0-5	Carnegie units
Tenth Grade	5-9	6-10	Carnegie units
Eleventh Grade	10-14	11-15	Carnegie units
Twelfth Grade	15+	1	Carnegie units
Graduation	21	5 24	Carnegie units

- Students in grades 1-12 who have not met requirements for promotion will be retained in the same grade.
- Beginning in the 2014-2015 school year, a student scoring at the lowest achievement level in reading on the established state assessment for 3rd grade will not be promoted to the 4th grade unless the student meets the good cause exemption for promotion.
- In cases of continued failure to meet promotion requirements based on documented evidence

of repeated, unsuccessful instruction interventions, the principal may recommend to the superintendent that a student be conditionally placed in another grade level for good cause exemption. Conditional placement must be approved by the student's parents, the student's

teachers, the principal, and the principal of the receiving school prior to review by the superintendent or designee.

- Conditional placement of an individual student can only occur during grades 1-8.
- Conditional placement of a student can only be made to the grade that is the next grade level beyond the currently assigned grade.

## MISSISSIPPI SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS

The State Department of Education shall establish goals for the performance of children with disabilities that will promote the purpose of IDEA and are consistent, to the maximum extent appropriate, with other goals and standards for children established by the State Department of Education. Performance indicators used to assess progress toward achieving those goals that, at a minimum, address the performance of children with disabilities on assessments, drop-out rates, and graduation rates shall be developed. Every two (2) years, the progress toward meeting the established performance goals shall be reported to the public. '37-23-133 and ' 37-23-1 (1999)

For information on the awarding of a special diploma or an occupational diploma, please refer to MS Code\* 37-16-11.

### NOTES:

1. According to a 1998 Attorney General Opinion, automatic fail provision of an absences policy may not apply against legal, excused absences. Such absences policies may not be applied against absences resulting from disciplinary suspensions if absences policies are applied to truant children who are otherwise passing, the district must afford the child procedural due process. (Attorney General Opinion, Carter, 1-9-98) (#183) (97-0817)
2. Please refer to the current edition of Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards for information on Performance Standards and Graduation Requirements.

The Mississippi Public School Accountability Standard for this policy is standard 21.

LEGAL REF.: MS CODE as cited

*Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards*

CROSS REF.: Policies 1B - Instructional Goals

IH - Student Achievement Improvement Act of 1999

IHF - Graduation Requirements

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