

Promotion and Retention Policy

Students will normally progress annually from grade to grade. Students shall not be retained for extracurricular purposes. In accordance with *MS Code 37-177-1* of the *MS Code of 1972*, social promotion is prohibited in compliance with the Literacy-Based Promotion Act.

Minimum requirements for promotion:

Minimum Requirements for Promotion for Grades K-5

Grade K Should pass 70% of the district objectives in language arts and math.

Grade 3 Must pass language arts and math with a 65 or above and exhibit an adequate level of reading proficiency as measured on the state approved reading assessment. If a student passes the state approved reading assessment but does not pass language arts or math with a 65 or above, the student is retained. In addition, if a student fails two or more of ANY subject, they will be retained.

Grade 1-5 Must pass language arts, math, and science with a 65 or above and exhibit an adequate level of reading proficiency as measured on the state approved reading assessment. In addition, if a student fails two or more of ANY subject, they will be retained.

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 (MS Code 37-177-9).

Minimum requirements for promotion for Grades 6-8

Grade 6-8 Must pass language, math, science and social studies with a grade of 65 or above. In addition, 8th graders must pass MS Studies/World Geography, CCR Math 8, and a technology credit to be promoted to 9th grade along with the other required courses. **This 8th grade requirement does not apply to students who transfer from another state.

Promotion to grades 9-12 is based on the accumulation of Carnegie units in accordance with the following schedule:

Minimum Requirements for Promotion for Grades 9-12 with the passage of the grade level English.

9th	3
10th	7
11th	14
12th	18

Exceptions may be granted in order for students to graduate during the current school year provided the student's age and/or 3 year graduation track is equivalent or greater than the peer-age of the current graduating class. Exceptions must be submitted to WCSD County office personnel for approval.

Students must achieve passing scores on statewide testing program subject area tests (CCR Algebra I, Biology I, U.S. History, and CCR English II) as per WCSD board policy IHF or meet the Mississippi Graduation Assessment Options. If a student fails the test, but passes the course, he will be assigned the earned Carnegie unit credit. If a student fails the subject area test, he/she will be allowed to participate in the Mississippi Graduation Assessment Options.

Students with eligibility rulings for special educational services shall be promoted or retained based upon mastery of skills specified in their Individual Educational Plan and a decision reached by the IEP committee and principal to assure a least restrictive environment. Additionally, diploma-bound students shall meet the graduation requirements of the district.

Legal Reference: Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards; SB Policy Part 3, Chapter 36

Transfer Students

In the event that number grades are not sent from a prior school and verification is present that efforts have been made to secure the number grades and these efforts have been unsuccessful, then transfer students' grades will be averaged using the midpoint grade (i.e., A=97, B=87, C=77, D=69, F=66).

Summer School/Extended Year Policy

In the effort to provide quality education to all students, the Board encourages schools within the district to provide academic, cultural, recreational, and aesthetic programs that provide activities targeted toward developing the total student. After-school, summer, and extended school learning experiences can be provided by the schools as deemed appropriate to match the needs of the respective student bodies.

Extended School Year/Summer School regulations of the Commission on School Accreditation are to be followed by all schools providing summer school instruction and are as follows:

1. The program is under the leadership of the district superintendent and the supervision of a principal.
2. Each program is housed in a school building or will be offered through an online instructional program and management system.
3. A definite schedule of classes is followed.
4. All staff are appropriately licensed.
5. The instructional program and management system are consistent with that used in the regular session.

6. Students enrolled must provide written approval from the principal of their home schools.
7. Students enrolled in an extended school year/summer school program complete all remaining course/subject or credit recovery requirements/objectives before credit for the course/subject is issued.
8. Students enrolled in a summer school program are limited to earning one unit of credit during the summer school session.

All such programs designed by the schools must be approved by the district office and adequately supervised. Appropriate accreditation and legal standards set by regional or state agencies must be met.