



AMERICAN ACADEMY
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Grade Promotion and Retention Policy

This policy was approved by the American Academy Board of Directors on July 15, 2010.

Purpose

This policy defines the procedures and rules for retaining students in their current grade and promoting students to a higher grade.

Grade Level Retention Definition

Retention is defined as not permitting a student to advance to the next grade level with his/her classmates.

Identifying Grade Level Retention Candidates

The following policies are intended to assist the staff of American Academy and parents in identifying those children who are most likely to benefit from retention and those who are not:

- If the student is failing to make normal progress, the parents must be notified by the end of the first trimester, so that the school and home may cooperate in helping him/her achieve greater success. This communication is not to discuss retention, but to facilitate working as a team to help the student succeed.
- In certain situations, retention decisions may be guided in part by a Response to Intervention Team discussion. This team uses an objective process that considers a variety of relevant factors with appropriately significant weighting given to academic achievement.
- The appropriate Academic Director will make the final decision, with input from the RTI Team (if applicable), teachers, and parents.

Middle School Grade Level Retention

A middle school student may be considered for retention if the student fails to meet grade level requirements.

Grade Requirements for Middle School Students

If a middle school student has not demonstrated proficiency in two of the three Core Subject areas, that student will not be promoted to the next grade level at the end of the school year. The Core Subjects, for the purposes of grade level retention are English, Science, and History. Math is considered separately as defined in the next section.

Passing a course is determined by two criteria, one of which must be met:

- The grade in the course for the last trimester must be at least 65%; or
- The grade average for all trimesters must be at least 65% for all subjects.

Math Retention Definition

Math Retention is defined as not permitting a student to advance the next math class.

Identifying Math Retention Candidates

Students who do not meet the requirements to advance to the next math class will be identified as math retention candidates. The appropriate Academic Director will make the final decision.

Requirements to Advance to the Next Math Level

- Grade Level Math: Students in a grade level math class must maintain a C- (72%) or better course average for the year and a C- (72%) or better for the third trimester.
- Accelerated Level Math: Students in an accelerated level math class must maintain a B- (82%) or better course average for the year and a B- (82%) or better for the third trimester.

Promotion Definition

Promotion is defined as permitting a student to skip the next grade level.

Promotion in all Grades (K-8)

Decisions to permit a student to skip the next grade level shall be made by the appropriate Academic Director, after reviewing all available data and seeking input from the student's teachers and parent(s) or legal guardian(s).

POLICY HISTORY

Original: approved by the BOD on July 14, 2008

Revision 1: approved by the BOD on February 18, 2010

Revision 2: approved by the BOD on July 15, 2010