

2402 Retention

Elementary

Decisions regarding student retentions are to be made on an individual basis for each student being considered for retention. All Braxton County educators are to contribute to the development of a school system that fosters higher student achievement by combining a rigorous academic program with a realistic understanding of grade level standards. The content standards provide a framework for teachers to teach and students to learn those skills and competencies deemed essential for future success.

Careful consideration must be given to a child's capabilities, social and emotional maturity, and the amount of progress that has been made when a child is considered for retention. The walk to success model will provide information on the progress of the child during the school year. If progress is not being obtained by the first nine weeks (if not sooner) the student shall be referred to the School Assistance Team.

School Assistance Team will help in making recommendations of possible interventions throughout the academic year. Interventions can be established and implemented in the walk to success time in addition to interventions in the general education classroom. Parents are essential components of the SAT, and their participation will help with interventions. Team members should also be knowledgeable of current research and best practices concerning interventions. Before retention is considered, a minimum of at least three SAT meetings must occur prior to the 1st semester and parent participation is required. The grades of the child will also be a consideration of mastery of the standards in the classroom along with assessments in the walk to success model.

Before retention is recommended a plan outlining what will be changed in the classroom experience for the following year will be developed so that a final decision to retain can be made. It is recommended that the SAT carefully consider the child's capabilities, social and emotional maturity and the impact of retention will have on the student during their school career. At the end of the instructional year, parents will be presented documentation of lack of academic proficiency or lack of specific skills that the child has not mastered. Parents of all children who are considered for retention must receive formal notice of such intended action as soon as possible, but no later than the end of the first semester.

This evidence should be provided to the superintendent at the beginning of the second semester. However, the final retention approval shall be a decision of the superintendent, after the process outlined in the paragraph above has been completed.

Middle School

Grades on the report cards are to reflect evidence of the student's inclination for promotion and/or retention. In the middle school grades (7-8) a student who receives an "F" for the year in any two of the following subjects: English, social studies, mathematics, science, or reading will be considered for retention. The parent(s) shall be notified in writing and a SAT meeting will be held, within two weeks following the completion of the first semester, unless there are reviewed, mitigating circumstances. A conference should be scheduled with the parent(s) to discuss the probability of retention as well as to counsel with the parent(s) on how to deal with the retention should it occur. Written permission from the parents for retention is not required, however parent(s) must be notified of the specific reasons for retention. A letter of confirmation of retention will be sent by the school to the parents of a student failing to meet the standards of the grade level assigned for the specified year. This letter will be sent with the

final report card. Prior to final retention notice, students considered for retention shall be reviewed by the appropriate student assistance team. The teacher or team will completed a Light Retention Scale for the student. These results are to be used as supportive information and not as the sole instrument to determine retention. For those students whose educational performance is not commensurate with their peers and are suspected of having an exceptionality, a written referral to the SAT shall be made. Interventions in the walk to success and regular classroom will occur at this point if not sooner.

This evidence should be provided to the superintendent at the beginning of the second semester. However, the final retention approval shall be a decision of the superintendent, after the process outlined in the paragraph above has been completed.

High School

Credits Required for Grade Placement - The following scale of earned units shall be used by the Braxton County high schools to determine the grade placement of students. Class Number of Earned Units of Credit

Sophomore 6

Junior 13

Senior 20 (see state Policy 2510 for graduation requirements)

Any high school student who fails to receive credit in two or more core classes will be referred to the SAT leader by the graduation coach and/or A/A advisor for referral to the appropriate student assistance team to be scheduled within the next grading period.

Reference: WV Universal Access to a Quality Early Education System (Policy 2525) - WVDE Assuring Quality of Education: Regulation for Educational Programs (2510)

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