

The Martin County Board of Education believes that students should have the opportunity for academic success. All students in Grades 3 - 8 are expected to achieve a Level IV score on the State End-of-Grade reading and math tests as well as on the science tests for grades 5 and 8. Additionally, all students are expected to achieve a passing score of 60 or higher, on any North Carolina Final Exam, (NCFE), which is administered as a requirement of the class in which they are enrolled. Students who score a Level III on the EOG test or a passing score on NCFE tests are eligible to pass the class, if they successfully meet all other class performance requirements.

**Grades 4 - 8:**

Any students who take high school courses in middle school, (i.e. Math 1, English 1 or other such courses normally taken in the 9-12 setting), are required to take the subsequent EOC exam or North Carolina Final Exam for that course. In determining the student's final grade for that particular high school level course, the EOC or NCFE will count as 25% of the student's final grade.

Students who do not take the State End of Grade tests, NCFE or other State of North Carolina mandated tests, unless the student has an approved medical exemption or otherwise previously documented good cause exemption will not be eligible for promotion unless they make up the test(s) within the regular testing makeup window.

Middle school students taking high school courses who achieve a minimum Level III score on the EOC test or passing score on the NCFE but failing the course(s) may participate in a credit recovery program or retake the course in high school. Credit recovery programs may take place on the high school campus. Middle school students taking high school courses who fail both the NCFE/EOC and the course, should retake the course in high school.

Students failing both the State test and the course should not receive credit for the course and should not be referred to remediation unless the principal of the school, under G.S.115C-288(a) granting the principal authority to grade and classify students, determines the need

for a good cause exemption. Upon consultation with the classroom teacher, the principal will then determine if there is a need for a review committee or that, based on information and records reviewed in the consultation with the teacher, the student should be declared eligible for summer remediation.

Should a review committee need to be convened, the committee will consist of a district administrator, a school based administrator, two teachers to include one from the child's current course and one from the grade level of the child, and a guidance counselor. The committee will be responsible for reviewing the student's performance and may request additional information if necessary. The committee will consider the following factors in determining if a student is eligible for promotion/retention:

## **END OF GRADE POLICY FOR STUDENTS GRADES 3 - 8**

**Policy Code: 3424**

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**Portfolios of Students Work:** The following are examples of student work that may be included in the student's portfolio:

- Personal Education Plan
- Assisted and unassisted class work samples.
- Selected tests and quizzes, benchmark status reports.
- Exceptional Children's designation.
- Listing of current and previous end-of-course scores.
- Teacher assessment of strengths and weaknesses.
- Listing of parental contacts and conferences.

**Other Factors:** In addition to the actual performance and portfolio data, the committee may also consider the following factors in making a final recommendation:

- Any information relating to extended illness or absences that may have affected the student's performance
- Attendance
- Any other extenuating factor that clearly affected the student's performance

Based on the review of student performance data, the committee will recommend or not recommend promotion for the student.

**The principal shall ultimately determine whether the student has or has not met the testing and/or course standard:**

- The principal may determine that sufficient evidence exists to demonstrate that the student has met the standard and thereby may grant the student credit and a passing score in the class in question and will note this in the student's official records.
- The principal may determine that insufficient evidence exists to demonstrate that the student has met the standard and the student will not be given credit or a passing score for the class in question. This will be noted in the student's official record.
- A principal may determine that evidence suggests the student will benefit from a period of directed remediation, and when successfully completed, the standard will be met. This will be noted in the student's official record.

### **Grade 3:**

Students in grade 3 are subject to the course credit/promotion/retention guidelines and regulations regarding tests that are set forth in **GS 115C-83.1** through **GS 115C-83.10**, also known as the **North Carolina Read to Achieve Act**, and any subsequent additions, modifications and/or deletions to this act. Students in grade 3 will not have any EOG or NCFE score computed as a part of their final grade.

**END OF GRADE POLICY  
FOR STUDENTS GRADES 3 - 8**

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