

Lancaster Community School District

Instruction

**MIDDLE SCHOOL PROMOTION AND RETENTION**

General Promotion Requirements for Grades 5 through 7

To be promoted to the next grade level, students in grades 5 through 7 must meet the criteria outlined in A and B below:

- A. Pass 60% of their “core” academic classes each semester – “core” academic subjects include: (1) mathematics; (2) English or language arts; (3) science; (4) social studies; and (5) reading. All five of the core academic subjects are year-long courses at the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade levels; at the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade levels, the first four are year-long courses with reading being only a semester course.
- B. Pass 60% of any other carried courses each semester - other carried subjects would first include required courses (e.g. such as physical education and health in 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade; music and art in 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grades; and, technology education, family and consumer education, keyboarding, art, and library skills in 7<sup>th</sup> grade); and then would include any electives. All of these "non-core" courses would count as part of the total of carried subjects, in proportion to the part of the semester for which they meet.

General Promotion Requirements for 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Students (beginning in the 2002-2003 school year)

To be promoted to grade 9, students in 8<sup>th</sup> grade must:

- meet the criteria outlined in A and B above; and
- achieve a score of basic or above on five of the six subtests (reading, language arts/English, mathematics, science, social studies, and writing) in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade state assessment test.

Academic Criterion for Grade 8

If an 8<sup>th</sup> grade student meets A and B above but does not achieve the required score on the 8<sup>th</sup> grade state assessment test, he/she may still be promoted if he/she meets the academic criterion of earning at least a C- average (1.67 or better grade point average) in all carried subjects for each semester or earning a C- average for the core academic subjects for the year.

### Referral to the Promotion/Retention Committee or Parent/Guardian Meeting

Either (1) the promotion/retention committee, including the parents/guardian, or (2) at the principal's discretion, the parents/guardian, a guidance counselor or teacher and the principal or designee, will meet to determine promotion, retention, or other available alternative of the following:

- any student in grades 5 through 7 who does not meet the general promotion requirements for grades 5 through 7; or
- any 8<sup>th</sup> grade student who does not meet the general promotion requirements for 8<sup>th</sup> grade or the academic criterion for 8<sup>th</sup> grade: or any student with an attendance record of less than 75%

Such determinations shall be made in accordance with established procedures.

If the parents/guardian are not satisfied with the determination, they may appeal to the District Administrator and ultimately to the Board of Education, in accordance with established procedures.

All relevant state and federal laws pertaining to students with disabilities, limited English proficiency, and 504 status shall apply.

LEGAL REF: Sections 118.14 Wisconsin Statutes  
118.33(6)  
Individuals with Disabilities Education Act  
Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973

CROSS REF.: 345.42-Rule, Guidelines for Middle School Promotion/Retention  
Committee or Principal/Parent Meeting  
342.1, Programs for Students with Disabilities  
342.51, Programs and Services for English Language Learners

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