

# **Student Promotion**

Board Policy: SA-11  
Adopted: March 14, 1994  
Revised: November 9, 2009

## **I. General Policy Statement**

The Haywood County Board of Education believes that promotion standards should permit the school staff to make decisions that meet state and local standards and that best fit the needs of individual students. The Board recognizes that students grow and develop at different rates; therefore, promotion decisions will be based on the best interest of the child.

## **II. Regulations**

- A. The school principal has the ultimate responsibility regarding promotion and retention decisions in accordance with Public School Law 115C-288 (a).
- B. A student is promoted when he/she is advanced to the next higher grade level based on satisfactory academic progress (defined in Sections III and V below).
- C. In grades 3-8, the state and local prescribed minimum achievement levels on end-of-grade reading and math assessments must be attained in addition to satisfactory performance standards.
- D. Students must meet attendance guidelines specified in Board Policy A-5, Attendance, Membership, and Course Credit. (See also III.D)
- E. Promotion of students in the Exceptional Children's Program shall be determined by federal and state guidelines.
- F. Promotion of students identified as Limited English Proficient (LEP), shall adhere to state guidelines.

## **III. Promotion Standards (Grades K-8)**

- A. Students in grades K-2 will be handled on a case-by-case basis following Public School Law 115C-288(a).
- B. Students in grades 3-8 must score a minimum of Level III on end-of-grade reading and math assessments. Students who fail to reach these minimum standards must participate in remediation opportunities, either tutoring and/or summer school, and retesting if appropriate, before being considered for promotion. (See Policy SA-13)
- C. Elementary School (3-5) – Students are promoted from grade to grade and to the middle school upon achievement at the "D" or better level in communication skills and mathematics.
- D. Middle Schools (6-8) – Students are promoted from grade to grade and to high school upon passing all except one core course (language arts, math, science, social studies) and all except one encore or elective course.
- E. Students in grades K- 8 must meet attendance standards to be eligible for promotion. (See Policy A-5)
- F. Promotion decisions for students in grades K-8 shall be made by the principal after consultation with the student's teacher(s) and parents. Factors that might be considered are:
  - 1. Maturity level, and self-concept,
  - 2. Attendance (See Policy A-5)
  - 3. Proficiency on state and local assessments
  - 4. Actual classroom performance
  - 5. Projected ability to perform at the next grade level
  - 6. Participation in available remediation – (Refer to Board Policy SA-13, Student Accountability)

#### IV. Notification of Non-Promotion (Grades K-8)

- A. Students subject to non-promotion shall be identified as soon as possible. A notification letter and parent conference should be held as early as practical but shall be no later than the end of the mid-year grading period except in extreme cases.
- B. A second notification shall be made no later than the end of the next grading period. At this time, parents will be notified that non-promotion is still a definite possibility or that their child is showing improvement.
- C. Following completion of the End-of Grade tests/assessments and calculation of end-of-year grades, the parents of students recommended for non-promotion shall be notified.

#### V. Course Standards (Grades 9-12)

Credit for high school courses include attendance requirements that are found in Policy A-5.

##### A. Pisgah High School

- 1. To enter the tenth grade, a student must have earned a minimum of six (6) units of credit, two of which must have been earned in core academic areas and one of these must be English.
- 2. To enter the eleventh grade, a student must have earned a minimum of eleven (11) units of credit with two of these credits being in English.
- 3. To enter the twelfth grade, a student must have earned a minimum of twenty (20) units of credit. Two of these credits must be in English and it must be possible for all other graduation requirements to be met during the upcoming year.

##### B. Central Haywood High School

- 1. To enter the tenth grade, a student must have earned a minimum of five (5) units of credit, one of which must be in English.
- 2. To enter the eleventh grade, a student must have earned a minimum of nine (9) units of credit, two of which must be in English.
- 3. To enter the twelfth grade, a student must have earned a minimum of fourteen (14) units of credit. Two of these credits must be in English and it must be possible for all other graduation requirements to be met during the upcoming year.

##### C. Tuscola High School

- 1. To enter the tenth grade, a student must have earned a minimum of five (5) units of credit, one of which must have been earned in English
- 2. To enter the eleventh grade, a student must have earned a minimum of ten (10) units of credit. Two of these credits must be in English.
- 3. To enter the twelfth grade, a student must have earned a minimum of seventeen (17) units of credit. Two of these units must be in English and it must be possible for all other graduation requirements to be met during the upcoming year.

##### D. Haywood Early College

The school will follow state promotion guidelines using a combination of public school and community college courses.

##### E. Graduation Course and Credit Requirements

To graduate from a Haywood County High School with a diploma, a student shall meet all State Board of Education and Haywood County Board of Education requirements. (See Policy SA-13)

- 1. The graduate shall earn a minimum number of credits that is equal to or greater than 85% of his/her last four-year maximum course credit potential at Tuscola, and Pisgah high schools.
- 2. Students from Central Haywood High School must earn a minimum of 22 credits to graduate with a diploma.
- 3. Occupational Course of Study students must earn the state required credits to graduate with a diploma.