

Middle School Advancement Policy



Chippewa Falls School District Middle School Advancement Policy

The Chippewa Falls Area Unified School District shall promote a middle school student based on academic performance as evidenced primarily by:

- his/her reports of progress in attaining mastery of content and or Common Core State Standards,
- achievement and assessment data,
- scale score growth in the examination approved by the Wisconsin State Superintendent of Schools (as available)
- academic teaching team recommendations
- and other academic criteria as specified by the School Board.

The academic teaching team recommendation shall be based upon the student's attainment of standards in the current year subject areas, achievement data from prior years, degree of academic progress made throughout the year, other standardized test scores, successful participation in intervention programs, and other evidence of skills and knowledge. The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) shall determine scheduling of the administration and the number of opportunities a student shall have to take the state approved examination during the school year.

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) are strongly encouraged to respond to the school's invitations to be involved in the advancement/retention decision-making process of their student(s).

Other Criteria

Students enrolled in special education programs and students for whom 504 plans have been developed may be exempt from all or part of this policy. Promotion for these students is determined by their Individual Education Plan for special education or their Individual Accommodation Plan for 504.

Promotion decisions for transfer students for whom the state assessment results are not available shall be based on their current academic progress data, a review of their previous academic progress, standardized test scores and teacher recommendations.

The Superintendent of Schools shall be responsible for the general supervision and management of the Policy 5410. The Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee shall determine whether a student has satisfied the criteria in this policy.

The final decision on all promotion/retention rests with the building principal, who may promote students who do not meet the promotion criteria in this policy. When considering promotion of such students, the building principal shall use the Light's Retention Scale and take into consideration such things as teacher recommendations from current and prior years, degree of academic progress made throughout the year, other standardized test scores, successful participation in intervention programs, and other evidence of knowledge or skills.

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) shall be notified annually of the terms of this policy.

Appeal Process

If a student is denied promotion, his/her parent(s)/guardian(s) may appeal the decision. The student's parent(s)/guardian(s) shall bring or send an intent to appeal to the Middle School Administration Office at the following address: 750 Tropicana Boulevard, Chippewa

Frequently Asked Questions

What does my child have to do to be promoted to the next grade?

The student must demonstrate progress in attaining mastery of content and or Common core State Standards, as evidenced by

- achievement and assessment data,
- scale score growth in the examination approved by the Wisconsin State Superintendent of Schools (as available)
- academic teacher teaching team
- and other academic criteria as specified by the School Board.

What if my child did not meet the requirement of acceptable academic performance?

The display of acceptable academic performance is the primary requirement for a student to be eligible for promotion. If the acceptable academic performance requirement is not met, the student will not be promoted.

If I do not agree with the decisions being made about my child at any point in this process can I appeal it?

Yes. Exceptional cases may be appealed to the building principal with whom the final decision on promotion or retention rests.

How does this policy apply if my child has an IEP or 504 plan?

Students enrolled in special education programs and students for whom 504 plans have been developed may be exempt from all or part of this policy. Promotion for these students is determined by their Individual Education Plan for special education or their Individual Accommodation Plan for 504.

How will I know if my child is at risk of not being promoted to the next grade?

At the end of the first semester, parent(s)/guardian(s) of middle school students are contacted if there is a possibility their student is at risk of retention based on academic performance.

At the end of the third quarter, parent(s)/guardian(s) of middle school students who are at risk of not meeting the promotion criteria are contacted about the possibility of their child being retained at their current grade level.

In late May or early June, parents(s)/guardian(s) of the students who are being retained are notified.

