



PROMOTION, PLACEMENT, AND RETENTION

Legacy Academy of Excellence recognizes that the personal, social, physical, and educational growth of children will vary and that they should be placed in the educational setting most appropriate to their needs at the various stages of their growth.

Legacy Academy of Excellence advocates policies and programs that promote effective curriculum and instruction essential to improving student achievement.

Best practices are characterized by:

- A. a clear academic focus with well-defined high standards, expectations, and a challenging curriculum;
- B. a safe and orderly environment;
- C. small class size in the early grades to maximize opportunities for flexibility in instruction and individual student attention;
- D. a strong, comprehensive team of teachers, administrators, support staff, and parents;
- E. instructional strategies in a variety of settings that maximize time focused on learning and academic achievement;
- F. system-wide frequent monitoring of individual student performance based on benchmark assessments;
- G. early interventions that provide immediate assistance to students;
- H. staff development that supports all aspects of instruction; and
- I. adequate resources from both the District and the community.

It is the Governing Authority 's intent that each student be moved forward in a continuous pattern of achievement and growth that is in harmony with his/her own development.

Such pattern should coincide with the system of grade levels established by this Governing Authority 's and the instructional objectives established for each.

Promotion to Fourth Grade



A third-grade student shall be promoted to fourth grade only as permitted by Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3313.608. A student is eligible for promotion at the end of the school year if the student attains the state-designated promotion level on the grade 3 Ohio English language arts assessment, including on any administration recognized by state law, or if the student qualifies for a statutory exemption or other statutory promotion pathway under Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3313.608.

As required by Ohio law, decisions regarding promotion from third grade to fourth grade shall be made in accordance with Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3313.608. Any additional attendance-based or local academic requirements shall not be applied in a manner inconsistent with the statutory criteria governing third-grade reading-based promotion and retention.

Promotion Standard for the 2025-2026 School Year and Beyond:

The promotion threshold for third-grade reading shall be the level designated by the State of Ohio under Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3301.0710 and applied pursuant to Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3313.608. This policy does not establish a fixed local numeric score.

If Ohio law permits promotion based on a Department-approved alternative standardized reading assessment, a student who attains the required score on that approved assessment shall be eligible for promotion as provided in Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3313.608.

Under Ohio law, a Reading Improvement and Monitoring Plan (RIMP) shall continue until the student attains the required reading skill level for the student's current grade, as required by Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3313.608.

Definitions

"On track" means any student who is reading at grade level based on previous end of year standards expectations by September 30th.

"Not on track" means any student who is not reading at grade level based on previous end of year standards expectations by September 30th.

Promotion:

A student will be promoted to the succeeding grade level when s/he has: completed the course and State-mandated requirements at the presently assigned grade; in the opinion of the professional staff, achieved the instructional objectives set for the present grade; demonstrated sufficient proficiency to permit him/her to move ahead in the educational program of the next grade; demonstrated the degree of social, emotional, and physical maturation necessary for a successful learning experience in the next grade.



A student will be promoted to the succeeding grade level when s/he has:

- A. completed the course and State-mandated requirements at the presently assigned grade;
- B. in the opinion of the professional staff, achieved the instructional objectives set for the present grade;
- C. demonstrated sufficient proficiency to permit him/her to move ahead in the educational program of the next grade;
- D. demonstrated the degree of social, emotional, and physical maturation necessary for a successful learning experience in the next grade.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, promotion from third grade to fourth grade when a student has not attained the state reading benchmark shall be governed exclusively by Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3313.608 and any applicable statutory exemption or promotion pathway.

Retention:

In grades K-8, a student will be retained if s/he has failed two (2) or more required curriculum subjects, unless it is determined that the student is academically prepared to be promoted to the next grade level by the Principal and the teacher(s) of the subjects failed.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, retention and promotion of third-grade students based on reading performance shall be governed by Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3313.608. A third-grade student who does not attain the state-designated reading achievement level shall be retained unless the student qualifies for a statutory exemption or other statutory promotion pathway.

A third-grade student who does not attain the state-designated reading achievement level shall nevertheless be promoted if the student qualifies under any applicable exception or pathway authorized by Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3313.608, including:

- (1) an applicable English learner exemption;
- (2) an applicable disability-based exemption through an individualized education program;
- (3) acceptable performance on a Department-approved alternative standardized reading assessment;
- (4) an applicable prior retention and intensive remediation pathway; or
- (5) parent or guardian request for promotion, where permitted by statute.



The Director shall identify and report any student to be retained within two (2) weeks after the close of the academic year. Any student who successfully completes an approved remediation program prior to the beginning of the next school year in order to comply with the above requirements may then be promoted to the next grade level. Such promotion shall be processed at the building level provided they occur no later than the second full week of the subsequent school year.

For any student identified under Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3313.608 as reading below grade level and required to receive intervention services, the school shall provide required parent notice, intensive reading instruction, and a Reading Improvement and Monitoring Plan within the time required by law. The RIMP shall continue until the student reaches the required reading skill level for the student's current grade.

For a student retained under the Third Grade Reading Guarantee, the District shall provide the remediation, reading instruction, and any mid-year promotion opportunity required by Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3313.608.

Should an error occur in the retention or promotion of any student for reasons including, but not limited to, procedural errors or misinterpretation of a student's transcript, the building administrator shall request a correction to the appropriate grade placement on a form developed by the Superintendent. The Director shall sign the required form once completed. A copy of the completed form shall be placed in the student's cumulative folder.

A student may be placed at the next grade level when retention would no longer benefit the student.

The Superintendent shall develop administrative guidelines for promotion, placement, and retention of students that:

- A. require the recommendation of the relevant staff members for promotion, placement, or retention;
- B. require that parents are informed in advance of the possibility of retention of a student at a grade level;
- C. assure that efforts will be made to remediate the student's difficulties before s/he is retained;
- D. assign to the principal the responsibility for determining the promotion, placement, or retention of each student;



- E. provide parents the opportunity to request the promotion, placement, or retention of their child;
- F. provide parents the opportunity to appeal the decision about their child's promotion, placement, or retention.

Definitions

Unexcused absence – an unexcused absence is any absence that is not preceded by notification and/or followed by a note from a parent, guardian, or physician in a case of personal illness, family emergency, or other situations as defined by the Ohio Revised Code and/or District procedures.

Academically Prepared - for purposes of third-grade reading-based promotion and retention, eligibility for promotion shall be determined under Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3313.608. No local definition of “academically prepared” shall supersede the statutory promotion and retention criteria applicable to the Third Grade Reading Guarantee.