

Progress**PROMOTION, PLACEMENT, AND GRADUATION--GRADES K-12 AND ADULT**

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida is dedicated to the total and continuous development of each student. The professional staff of the school system has the responsibility to develop administrative procedures to ensure the placement of each student in the subjects, in the grade level, or in the special program(s) best suited to meet the student's academic needs, with consideration given to the student's social, emotional, and physical development.

Decisions regarding student promotion, retention, and special placement are primarily the responsibilities of the individual school's professional staff; however, the final decision in regard to grade placement is the responsibility of the principal. The districtwide standards, in accordance with which placement decisions must be made, are entitled *Student Progression Plan 2010-2011*, which is incorporated by reference herein and made a part of this Board rule. Also, the purpose of this plan is to establish requirements and procedures for pupil progression within Miami-Dade County Public Schools. Copies of this plan are on file in the Office of Board Recording Secretary and the Citizen Information Center. The standards and the procedures for their implementation that are contained in the plan reflect clearly that promotion in Miami-Dade County Public Schools is based primarily on student achievement and is not an automatic process.

The measures which are employed to implement the standards must clearly reflect the multicultural composition of this community. Students must be provided placements which are appropriate for their English language competency and cultural background. English Language Learners (ELLs) must be provided instruction which is understandable, as well as equal and comparable in amount, scope, sequence, and quality to that provided to English proficient students. The acquisition of English language skills is the highest instructional priority for speakers of other languages. Grade placement and promotion, however, are to be based on the student's performance in the dominant language while the student is in the process of becoming independent in English.

The purpose of the instructional program in the district's schools is to provide appropriate instruction and selected services to enable students to perform academically at their grade level or higher. However, in recognition of the wide range of students' abilities, motivation, interests, and development, the *Student Progression Plan* establishes objectives and competencies for language arts/reading, writing, mathematics, science, computer literacy, social sciences, and for electives, which may include foreign languages, art, music, physical education, and applied technology (vocational) courses, which all students must meet as one condition for graduation within the school district. These objectives and competencies assure that all students who earn a diploma from a senior high school or adult education center have sufficient basic skills to function effectively in post-secondary education, the world of work, and the community.

The *Student Progression Plan* provides assurance that all students within Miami-Dade County Public Schools who receive a diploma have met and/or exceeded all of the requirements mandated by the State of Florida and by the School Board.

The accompanying manuals for the *Student Progression Plan 2010-2011* shall be the *Florida Course Code Directory*, published annually by the Florida Department of Education, Course Descriptions, *Sunshine State Standards*, *Curriculum Bulletin-I*, and the *Competency-Based Curriculum, K-12*, which shall be a part of the *Student Progression Plan*. Copies of the manuals are on file in the Office of Board Recording Secretary and the Citizen Information Center, Room 158. Principals shall distribute copies of the *Competency-Based Curriculum* for the grade levels or courses to classroom teachers, as appropriate, in accordance with specific courses being taught.

As part of the *Student Progression Plan*, procedures are established to achieve parental understanding, cooperation, and acceptance of the student's promotion or placement with the knowledge that, within District and State regulations, the final decision regarding grade placement remains the prerogative of the principal. The student, the parent, and other interested patrons must have ample opportunity to understand fully the promotion and placement requirements of the District.

When students are from homes where a language other than English is spoken, communications (written or oral) with parents are undertaken in the parents' primary language or other mode of communication commonly used by the parents unless clearly not possible. When it becomes evident that the standards or requirements for promotion may not be met, parents of students in K-12 and adult students must be informed of the possibility of retention or special placement. Student grades, unsatisfactory work notices, parent reports on State assessment and/or standardized testing, parent conferences, and adult student conferences should serve as the primary means of communicating student progress and achievement of the standards.

Specific Authority: 1001.41(1)(2); 1001.42(25); 1001.43(10) F.S.

Law Implemented, Interpreted, or Made Specific: 1001.41(3); 1001.42(6); 1003.41; 1003.413; 1003.4156; 1003.428; 1003.429; 1003.4295; 1003.43; 1008.22; 1008.25 F.S.

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