

## SECTION 500 – EDUCATION SERVICES

### CLASS SIZE/STUDENT PLACEMENTS

### POLICY 550

#### ARTICLE 1 CLASS SIZE

- A. The Board recognizes that class size has bearing upon effective teaching. Class size is also dependent upon available facilities and the financial capability of the District. The Board of Education hereby establishes the following class sizes as guides or targets to be achieved, but does not mandate that class sizes be held to these levels:
1. Kindergarten and Grade 2 – between 18 and 22 students;
  2. Grades 3 and 5 – between 22 and 26 students;
  3. Grades 6 through 8 – between 24 and 28 students;
  4. High School – between 24 and 28 students although specialty classes (e.g. 2<sup>nd</sup> French, AP courses may enroll as few as 15 students. Courses may be canceled or offered on an alternate year schedule if enrollment falls below 15.
- B. When classes exceed the guidelines the following remedies may be considered:
1. Transfer of students to balance class sizes;
  2. Add paraprofessional assistance for the teacher;
  3. Add additional part-time or full-time teacher.
- C. Support staff allocations, licensed and classified, shall be made by the Superintendent based upon recommendations from Principals.

#### ARTICLE 2 GRADE LEVEL ASSIGNMENTS

- A. At elementary and middle school levels, grade level assignments shall be made by the Principal after a review of the student's achievement records and recommendations of teachers.
- B. At the senior high level, a student's grade level designation shall be based upon years at the school or at another high school:
1. Year 1 - Grade 9 - Freshman;
  2. Year 2 - Grade 10 – Sophomore;
  3. Year 3 - Grade 11 – Junior;
  4. Year 4 - Grade 12 – Senior

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References:

C.R.S. 22-32-109 (l) (t) Board duty to determine educational program

Adopted: January 15, 2003

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#### ARTICLE 3 PROMOTIONS & GRADE LEVEL RETENTIONS

- A. Students shall be promoted to the next higher grade upon completion of a school year at their current grade unless retained at the current grade by the Principal. A student may be retained no more than one time between kindergarten and grade 11. Students not completing graduation requirements are retained at grade 12 as necessary to meet requirements or until they are 21 years of age. Principals may require completion of specific remediation requirements in lieu of retention.
- B. A student may be retained at a grade based upon:
1. Poor attendance resulting in very limited work production or completion of assessments;
  2. Unsatisfactory Performance Ratings on two or more standards;
  3. Failing grades in two or more academic content subjects;
  4. Agreement by the parents and Principal that the student should be retained based upon the student's social, emotional, mental, or physical immaturity.
- C. Students may not be retained by the Principal when a referral for a suspected disability has been made or when the student has been identified as having a disability. Decisions about grade level placement for these students shall be made based upon Individual Educational Programs.
- D. Parents may appeal the Principal's retention decision to the Superintendent who shall review the facts of the case and the parents' reasons for not wanting the retention. A decision to uphold or override the retention shall be made within ten (10) days of receipt of the written appeal.

#### ARTICLE 4 COURSE PLACEMENTS

- A. At the high school level, students shall be placed in required courses based upon the established schedule. Placement in elective courses shall be based upon completion of prerequisite requirements and space availability. Seniors shall be given first priority for placement in elective courses.

#### ARTICLE 5 SPECIAL PLACEMENTS

- A. Placement in a special education program shall only be made in keeping with requirements of laws governing the education of disabled children.
- B. Placement for Title 1 remedial services shall only occur when students meet requirements as guided by Federal regulations.

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#### References:

C.R.S. 22-32-109 (l) (t) Board duty to determine educational program

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