



UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT AGENDA ACTION ITEM

TOPIC First Reading of LOCAL Policies in TASB Update 88

SUBMITTED BY: Gloria S. Rendon **OF:** Asst. to the Supt.

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL TO SCHOOL BOARD: _____

DATE ASSIGNED FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION: October 20, 2010

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the United ISD Board of Trustees approve First Reading of LOCAL Policies in TASB Update 88.

CQ(LOCAL): ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION AND DATA MANAGEMENT

EIE(LOCAL): ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT - RETENTION AND PROMOTION

RATIONALE:

BUDGETARY INFORMATION:

BOARD POLICY REFERENCE AND COMPLIANCE:

(LOCAL) Policy Comparison Packet

Each marked-up (LOCAL) policy in this collection reflects an automated comparison of the updated policy with its precursor, as found in the TASB Policy Service records.

The comparison is generated by an automated process that shows changes as follows.

- *Deletions* are shown in a red strike-through font: ~~deleted text~~.
- *Additions* are shown in a blue, bold font: **new text**.
- Blocks of text that have been *moved* without alteration are shown in green, with double underline and double strike-through formatting to distinguish the text's destination from its origin: ~~moved text~~ becomes moved text.
- *Revision bars* appear in the right margin, as above.

While the annotation software competently identifies simple changes, large or complicated changes—as in an extensive rewrite—may be more difficult to follow.

For further assistance in understanding changes, please refer to the explanatory notes in your Localized Policy Manual update packet or contact your policy consultant.

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION AND DATA MANAGEMENT

CQ
(LOCAL)

	The Superintendent or designee shall implement, monitor, and evaluate electronic media resources for instructional and administrative purposes.
AVAILABILITY OF ACCESS LIMITED PERSONAL USE	Access to the District's electronic communications system, including the Internet, shall be made available to students and employees primarily for instructional and administrative purposes and in accordance with administrative regulations. Limited personal use of the system shall not be permitted if the use: 1. Imposes a tangible cost on the District; 2. Interferes with or unduly burdens the District's computer or network resources; 3. Interferes with or has an adverse effect on an employee's job performance or duties, or on a student's academic performance; or 4. Does not comply with District policies and regulations, including GKA.
USE BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC	Access to the District's electronic communications system, including the Internet, shall be made available to members of the public, in accordance with administrative regulations. Such use shall not be permitted if the use: 1. Imposes a tangible cost on the District; 2. Interferes with or unduly burdens the District's computer or network resources; or 3. Does not comply with District policies and regulations, including GKA.
ACCEPTABLE USE	The Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement administrative regulations, guidelines, and user agreements consistent with the purposes and mission of the District and with law and policy. Access to the District's electronic communications system is a privilege, not a right. All users shall be required to acknowledge receipt and understanding of all administrative regulations governing use of the system and shall agree in writing to allow monitoring of their use and to comply with such regulations and guidelines. Noncompliance may result in suspension of access or termination of privileges and other disciplinary action consistent with District policies. [See DH, FN series, FO series, and the Student Code of Conduct] Violations of law may result in criminal prosecution as well as disciplinary action by the District.

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION AND DATA MANAGEMENT

CQ
(LOCAL)

INTERNET SAFETY	The Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement an Internet safety plan to: 1. Control students' access to inappropriate materials, as well as to materials that are harmful to minors; 2. Ensure student safety and security when using electronic communications; 3. Prevent unauthorized access, including hacking and other unlawful activities; 4. Restrict unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personally identifiable information regarding students; and 5. Educate students about cyberbullying awareness and response and about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking Web sites and in chat rooms.
FILTERING	Each District computer with Internet access shall have a filtering device or software that blocks access to visual depictions that are obscene, pornographic, inappropriate for students, or harmful to minors, as defined by the federal Children's Internet Protection Act and as determined by the Superintendent or designee. The Superintendent or designee shall enforce the use of such filtering devices. Upon approval from the Superintendent or designee, an administrator, supervisor, or other authorized person may disable the filtering device for bona fide research or other lawful purpose.
MONITORED USE	Electronic mail transmissions and other use of the electronic communications system by students and employees shall not be considered private. Designated District staff shall be authorized to monitor such communication at any time to ensure appropriate use.
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS	Students shall retain all rights to work they create using the District's electronic communications system. As agents of the District, employees shall have limited rights to work they create using the District's electronic communications system. The District shall retain the right to use any product created in the scope of a person's employment even when the author is no longer an employee of the District.
DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY	The District shall not be liable for users' inappropriate use of electronic communication resources, or violations of copyright restrictions or other laws, users' mistakes or negligence, and costs incurred by users. The District shall not be responsible for ensuring the accuracy, age appropriateness, or usability of any information found on the Internet.

**SECURITY BREACH
NOTIFICATION**

Upon discovering or receiving notification of a breach of system security, the District shall disclose the breach to affected persons or entities in accordance with the time frames established by law.

The District shall give notice by using one or more of the following methods:

1. Written notice.
2. Electronic mail, if the District has electronic mail addresses for the affected persons.
3. Conspicuous posting on the District's Web site.

Publication through broadcast media.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
RETENTION AND PROMOTION

EIE
(LOCAL)

CURRICULUM MASTERY	Promotion and course credit shall be based on mastery of the curriculum. Expectations and standards for promotion shall be established for each grade level, content area, and course and shall be coordinated with compensatory/accelerated services. [See EHBC]
STANDARDS FOR MASTERY	In addition to the factors in law that must be considered for promotion, mastery shall be determined as follows: 1. Course assignments and unit evaluation shall be used to determine student grades in a subject. An average of 70 or higher shall be considered a passing grade. 2. Mastery of the skills necessary for success at the next level shall be validated by assessments that may either be incorporated into unit or final examinations or may be administered separately. Mastery of at least 70 percent of the objectives shall be required.
GRADES 1–8	In grades 1–8, promotion to the next grade level shall be based on an overall average of 70 on a scale of 100 based on course-level, grade-level standards (essential knowledge and skills) for all subject areas and a grade of 70 or above in three of the following areas: language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies.
GRADES 9–12	Grade-level advancement for students in grades 9–12 shall be earned by course credits. [See EI] Changes in grade-level classification shall be made at the beginning of the fall semester. Juniors who are graduation candidates shall declare in the fall their intent to graduate early for purposes of class ranking and all other senior activities. These students shall be classified as seniors at the beginning of the spring semester. [See EI]
STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES	Promotion standards and appropriate assessment and acceleration options, as established by individualized education programs (IEP) or grade-level classification of students eligible for special education, shall be determined by the ARD committee.
LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENT ENCY STUDENTS	In assessing students of limited English proficiency for mastery of the essential knowledge and skills, the District shall be flexible in determining methods to allow the students to demonstrate knowledge or competency independent of their English language skills in the following ways: 1. Assessment in the primary language. 2. Assessment using ESL methodologies. 3. Assessment with multiple varied instruments. [See EHBE]

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
RETENTION AND PROMOTION

EIE
(LOCAL)

**ACCELERATED
INSTRUCTION FOR
GRADES 3–8**

If a student in grades 3–8 fails to demonstrate proficiency on a state-mandated assessment, the student shall be provided accelerated instruction in accordance with state law. Additionally, students in grades 5 and 8 shall be subject to all provisions of GRADE ADVANCEMENT TESTING below.

**GRADE
ADVANCEMENT
TESTING**

In addition to local standards for mastery and promotion, students in grades 5 and 8 must meet the passing standard ~~established by the State Board~~ on an applicable assessment instrument in the subjects required under state law in order to be promoted to the next grade.

**~~STUDENT SUCCESS
INITIATIVE~~**

DEFINITION OF
'PARENT'

For purposes of this policy and decisions related to **grade advancement requirements** ~~the student success initiative~~, a student's "parent" shall be defined to include either of the student's parents or guardians; a person designated by the parent, by means of a Power of Attorney **or an authorization agreement as provided in Section 34 of the Family Code**, to have responsibility for the student in all school-related matters ~~[see FD];~~ a surrogate parent acting on behalf of a student with a disability; a person designated by the parent or guardian to serve on the grade placement committee (GPC) for all purposes; or in the event that a parent, guardian, or designee cannot be located, a person designated by the Superintendent or designee to act on behalf of the student. [See EIE(LEGAL)]

ALTERNATE
ASSESSMENT
INSTRUMENT

The Superintendent or designee shall select from the state-approved list, **if available**, for each applicable subject an alternate assessment instrument that may be used for the third testing opportunity. Each student's GPC shall decide whether he or she shall be given the statewide assessment instrument or the applicable alternate instrument for the third testing opportunity. The committee's decision shall be based on a review of the student's performance in the previous testing opportunities, local assessments, and any other circumstances it deems appropriate.

STANDARDS FOR
PROMOTION UPON
APPEAL

If a parent initiates an appeal of his or her child's retention, the GPC shall review all facts and circumstances in accordance with law. ~~and shall apply the following standards in deciding to promote or retain the student:~~

- ~~1. Evidence of satisfactory student performance, including grades, portfolios, work samples, local assessments, previous state assessments, or individual reading or mathematics diagnostic tests or inventories, as appropriate;~~
- ~~2. Improvement in student test performance over the three testing opportunities;~~

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
RETENTION AND PROMOTION

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(LOCAL)

~~3. Extenuating circumstances that may have adversely affected the student's participation in instruction, required assessments, or accelerated instruction; and~~

~~4. Consideration of whether a student was not enrolled in a Texas public school for part of the school year.~~

The student shall not be promoted unless:

1. All members of the GPC agree that the student is likely to perform on grade level if given additional accelerated instruction during the following school year in accordance with the educational plan developed by the GPC;
2. The student **has completed required**~~completes~~ accelerated instruction in the subject area for which the student failed to demonstrate proficiency ~~before placement in the next grade level~~; and
3. The student completes any required accelerated instruction provided through summer school, with a minimum attendance rate of 90 percent for the subject area for which the student failed to demonstrate proficiency before consideration for placement in the next grade level.

Whether the GPC decides to promote or to retain a student in this manner, the committee shall determine an accelerated instruction plan for the student for the following school year, providing for interim reports to the student's parent and opportunities for the parent to consult with the teacher or principal as needed. The principal or designee shall monitor the student's progress during the following school year to ensure that he or she is progressing in accordance with the plan.

TRANSFER
STUDENTS

When a student transfers into the District having failed to demonstrate proficiency on applicable assessment instruments after two testing opportunities, a GPC shall convene for that student. The GPC shall review any available records of decisions regarding testing and accelerated instruction from the previous district and determine an accelerated instruction plan for the student.

If a parent initiates an appeal for promotion when a student transfers into the District having failed to demonstrate proficiency after three testing opportunities, the GPC shall review any available records of decisions regarding testing, accelerated instruction, retention, or promotion from the previous district and issue a decision in accordance with the District's standards for promotion.

ASSIGNMENT OF
RETAINED STUDENTS

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
RETENTION AND PROMOTION

EIE
(LOCAL)

In the event a student is not promoted to the next grade level, the District shall assign the student nevertheless to an age-appropriate campus. Criteria to be considered for this decision may include:

1. Recommendations from the student's teachers.
2. Observed social and emotional development of the student.

REDUCING STUDENT
RETENTION

The District shall establish procedures designed to reduce retaining students at a grade level, with the ultimate goal being elimination of the practice of retaining students. [See EHBC]

PARENT REQUEST

Parental requests to retain students who have met promotion requirements shall be denied unless a recommendation for retention is made by the student's ARD committee in accordance with federal requirements.