PROMOTION/ACCELERATION/RETENTION

The Board of Education expects students to progress through each grade level within one school year. Toward this end, instruction shall be designed to accommodate the variety of ways that students learn and provide strategies for addressing academic deficiencies and opportunities for acceleration as needed.

Students shall progress through the grade levels by demonstrating growth in learning and mastery over grade-level standards for expected student achievement.

(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)
(cf. 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements)
(cf. 6146.5 - Elementary/Middle School Graduation Requirements)
(cf. 6170.1 - Transitional Kindergarten)

When high academic achievement is evident, the teacher may recommend a student for acceleration to a higher grade level. The student's maturity level shall be taken into consideration in making a determination to accelerate a student.

Teachers shall identify students in grades 1 through 9 who should be retained or who are at risk of being retained at their current grade level as early as possible in the school year and as early in their school careers as practicable. (Education Code 48070.5)

Students shall be identified for retention on the basis of failure to meet minimum levels of proficiency, as indicated by grades and district-mandated assessments.

(cf. 5121 - Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement)

Students between grades 2 and 3 and grades 3 and 4 shall be identified primarily on the basis of their level of proficiency in reading. Proficiency in reading, English language arts, and mathematics shall be the basis for identifying students between grades 4 and 5, between intermediate and middle school grades, and between middle school grades and high school grades. (Education Code 48070.5)

(cf. 6142.91 - Reading/Language Arts Instruction)
(cf. 6142.92 - Mathematics Instruction)

If a student does not have a single regular classroom teacher, the Superintendent or designee shall specify the teacher(s) responsible for the decision to promote or retain the student. (Education Code 48070.5)

The teacher's decision to promote or retain a student may be appealed in accordance with AR 5123 - Promotion/Acceleration/Retention.
PROMOTION/ACCELERATION/RETENTION (continued)

When any student in grades 2-9 is retained or recommended for retention, the Superintendent or designee shall offer an appropriate program of remedial instruction to assist the student in meeting grade-level expectations. The Superintendent or designee also may offer supplemental instruction to a student in grades 2-6 who is identified as being at risk for retention. (Education Code 37252.2, 37252.8, 48070.5)

(cf. 6176 - Weekend/Saturday Classes)
(cf. 6177 - Summer Learning Programs)
(cf. 6179 - Supplemental Instruction)

Legal Reference:
EDUCATION CODE
37252-37254.1 Supplemental instruction
46300 Method of computing average daily attendance
48010 Admittance to first grade
48011 Promotion/retention following one year of kindergarten
48070-48070.5 Promotion and retention
56345 Elements of individualized education plan
60640-60649 California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress
60850-60859 Exit examination
CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5
200-202 Admission and exclusion of students

Management Resources:
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS
FAQs Promotion, Retention, and Grading (students with disabilities)
FAQs Pupil Promotion and Retention
Kindergarten Continuance Form
WEB SITES
CSBA: http://www.csba.org
California Department of Education: http://www.cde.ca.gov

Policy
adopted: July 24, 2018
Effective: November 1, 2018
Revised: July 30, 2019

SAN DIEGO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
San Diego, California