

Students

Promotion/Acceleration/Retention

The Board of Education is dedicated to the best total and continuous development of each student enrolled in its schools. Therefore, the District will establish and maintain the highest standards required for each grade and monitor student performance in a continuous and systematic manner. The administration and faculty shall establish a system of grading and reporting academic achievement to students and their parents and guardians. The system shall also determine when promotion and graduation requirements are met. The decision to promote a student to the next grade level shall be based on demonstrated and assessed successful completion of the curriculum, attendance, performance on the CMT and CAPT statewide assessments in grades 4, 6, 8 and 10, and other testing instruments. Any necessary retention should take place as early in a student's educational career as possible.

Students shall be promoted only on the basis of academic achievement. Students who, on the basis of objective measures of academic proficiency, can reasonably be expected to meet the instructional/learning objectives at the next educational level may be promoted.

The Board of Education shall approve the grading and reporting systems as developed by the administration and faculty upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools.

The Board desires to minimize/eliminate the practice of promoting students to the next grade level for social reasons even though they are failing academically. The Board expects students to progress through each grade usually within one school year. To accomplish this, instruction should accommodate the varying interests and growth patterns of individual students and include strategies for addressing academic deficiencies when needed. Students shall progress through the grade levels by demonstrating growth in learning and meeting grade-level standards of expected student achievement. The student's readiness for work at the next grade level shall be required before he/she is promoted. Students who have mastered the appropriate skills will be promoted; those who have not will be retained.

Progress toward high school graduation shall be based on the student's ability to pass the required subjects and electives necessary to earn the required number of credits necessary for graduation.

When high academic achievement is evident, the Superintendent or his/her designee may approve a student for acceleration into a higher grade level. The student's social and emotional growth shall be taken into consideration in making a determination to accelerate a student.

Students

Promotion/Acceleration/Retention (continued)

Schools shall identify students in danger of failing and being at risk for retention. This identification shall also include those students who fail to meet the remedial standards of the CMT and CAPT statewide assessment programs. Prior to deciding on retention for a student not mastering the appropriate skills, the district shall provide and may require the student to attend one or more alternatives for remedial assistance. Opportunities, provided for supplemental and remedial instruction to assist the student in overcoming his/her academic deficiencies, may include but are not limited to, after-school tutorial programs, Saturday tutorial programs, summer school, Reading Recovery, instruction during school vacations or during week-end programs, cross-age tutoring or student mentoring.

In all cases of promotion or retention, the parent/guardian is to be fully involved and informed throughout the promotion/retention decision making process. Parents will be notified as early as possible that retention is being considered and except in very unusual circumstances, no later than March 15. The Principal shall be responsible for making the final decision as to retention and assignment.

(cf. 5124 - Reporting to Parents)
 (cf. 6146 - Graduation Requirements)
 (cf. 6146.1 - Grading System)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

P.A. 99-288 An Act Concerning Education Accountability

10-221(b) Boards of education to prescribe rules.

10-265g Summer reading programs required for priority school districts.
 Evaluation of student reading level. Personal reading plans.

Policy adopted: June 26, 2006

EAST HAMPTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
 East Hampton, Connecticut

Students

Graduation Ceremonies (Participation)

Graduation and related senior activities shall be established as opportunities to honor and to recognize those who have successfully completed the District's course of study and are qualified to receive a diploma. The Board believes that these students deserve a public celebration that recognizes the pursuit of learning throughout their lives.

High school students must fulfill state and District graduation requirements in order to participate in graduation ceremonies.

In order to encourage high standards of student conduct and behavior, the principal may deny the privilege of participating in graduation ceremonies and/or activities in accordance with school rules. School rules shall ensure that the student and parent/guardian receive written notice of the privilege(s) to be denied, the grounds for such denial and the means whereby a student may appeal this decision to the Superintendent whose decision will be final. Any student serving a suspension that includes graduation day shall face the possibilities that graduation ceremony privileges may be revoked.

To honor superior academic achievement, graduation ceremonies may include recognition of a valedictorian and salutatorian. The Superintendent or designee shall establish procedures that ensure a fair determination of the students who have achieved the highest grade point average in the graduation class.

The Superintendent or designee may identify other school-sponsored awards which may be given during graduation exercises. A separate awards program may be held to recognize graduation students receiving other school and non-school awards.

Limitations:

1. These activities shall be free from innovative acts and interruptions which diminish the dignity of the activities for the other participants and their family.
2. Participation shall be a privilege, reserved to those who conduct themselves according to the established guidelines, rather than a right.
3. Participation privileges shall be withdrawn from any student whose conduct is not according to established guidelines.
4. Cooperation must be exhibited with school staff members and administration in senior activities, including the graduation ceremony.

Students

Graduation Ceremonies (Participation) (continued)

1. In order to preserve the dignity of the graduation ceremony, students must conform to school-sanctioned standards and expectations for behavior and attire.
2. Prior to the graduation ceremony, school properties must be returned and all outstanding fees paid.

(cf. 5114 – Suspension/Expulsion; Student Due Process)

(cf. 5123 – Promotion/Retention)

(cf. 5131 – Conduct)

(cf. 5144 – Discipline/Punishment)

(cf. 6146 – Graduation Requirements)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

10-221 Boards of education to prescribe rules, policies and procedures