

From time to time it is necessary to consider student retention or acceleration of students as merited by individual student needs or circumstances. In situations whereby students have failed to reach the desired level of achievement due to illness or non-attendance, it may be advisable to retain the child. The same may be true for children who have not exhibited the maturity and/or the motivation to perform academically at the appropriate grade level.

In other situations, it may be desirable to advance students to subsequent grade levels as a result of giftedness or exceptional performance after being retained at a specific grade level.

The judgments required to determine whether or not to retain a student at the same grade level or to advance a student by a grade level beyond that of his peers will not be made in isolation. All aspects of the student's physical, intellectual, educational, social, familial and psychological characteristics should be reviewed prior to reaching decisions concerning retention or promotion.

The educational performance of students being considered for retention or promotion should be reviewed by the Building Child Study Team\*(BCST). In the event that additional educational or evaluative information is required, the framework for obtaining the information is well established through the Building Child Student Team process.

The use of the Building Child Study Team process will help ensure that due process has been accorded to the students, their parents and district personnel. Decisions regarding retention, promotion or special program placement will be based on a thorough review of both subjective and objective information.

Since the parent is a member of the BCST, the parent will be directly involved in the retention, promotion, or special program placement review and decision making process.

\*Members of the Building Child Study Team shall include the following:

- Building Principal – Chairperson
- School Psychologist
- Special Education Teacher
- Referring Teacher
- Student's Parent/Guardian

Other building and/or ancillary personnel may be members of the building CST as appropriate. Representatives of Health and Welfare, the judicial system, and other child advocacy agencies may be invited to attend at the discretion of the building principal.



**REVISED:** February 21, 1983

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