


<p style="text-align: center;">Tucson Unified School District</p>  <p style="text-align: center;"><b>GOVERNING BOARD POLICY</b></p>	<p>POLICY TITLE: Promotion, Retention and Acceleration of Students</p>
	<p>POLICY CODE: IKE</p>
	<p>LEAD DEPARTMENT: Academic Excellence</p>

Tucson Unified School District is dedicated to the continuous development of each student.

**Promotion**

Students shall progress through the grade levels by demonstrating growth in learning and by meeting and/or exceeding the grade-level standards/Core Curriculum established by the State and District. The standards that students must achieve shall include accomplishment in the areas of language arts, literature, mathematics, science, social studies, music, visual arts, health/physical education and foreign or native American language adopted by the State Board of Education. In addition to these standards, test scores, grades, teacher recommendations, and other pertinent data will be used to determine promotion.

**Retention**

Retention of students is a process that is followed when the teacher(s), in consultation with the parent, determines that the student has not demonstrated competency in meeting the standards, and it is in the best interest of the student. Though primary grades are suggested as the most appropriate time, retention may be considered at any grade level.

**Acceleration**

Acceleration is a process of double promotion or higher grade placement based on the student’s learning ability, as well as:

- age,
- maturity,
- academic skills,
- self-confidence,
- grade level,
- behavior and
- other pertinent factors relating to the overall well-being of the student.

Acceleration will not apply to kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade students. Please refer to policy # JEB Entrance Age Requirements.

**Exceptional Education**

In addition to the above, such decisions, when applied to students enrolled in special education, shall be on a case-by-case basis, consistent with the individualized education plan and in accordance with A.A.C. R7-2-301 and R7-2-401.

**English Language Learners (ELL)**

The District will employ assessment and interventions strategies with English Language Learners in a way that language considerations will not be a factor in any retention

decision. The intervention will be designed to provide students with additional and intensive help in learning English and acquiring core academic content knowledge.

**Appeal of Teacher Decision to Promote, Retain, Pass or Fail a Pupil**

Pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes, a parent or student of majority (18 years of age) may appeal to the Board for reconsideration on any promotion, retention, pass or fail decision. The student and/or parent must present to the Governing Board proof that the student has or has not mastered the State Board adopted standards required for the specific grade level. Whether the Governing Board upholds or overturns the decision of the teacher, a written finding of their decision will be adopted by the Governing Board and provided to the parent or student of majority.

Adopted: April 11, 2006

Revision:

Review:

- LEGAL REF.:** A.R.S.     [15-203](#) Powers and Duties  
                                 [15-341](#) Powers and Duties of School District Governing Boards  
                                 [15-342](#) Discretionary Powers  
                                 [15-521](#) Duties of Teachers  
                                 [15-701](#) Common School; promotions; requirements.  
                                 [15-701.01](#) High School; promotions; requirements.  
                                 [15-715](#) Special Academic Assistance in Kindergarten & 1 – 3  
                                 grades  
                                 A.A.C. [R7-2-301](#) Minimum Course of Study and Competency Goals  
                                 [R7-2-401](#) Special Education Standards

Cross Reference: Policy # JEB Entrance Age Requirements.

Replaces TUSD Policy # 5110 Promotion