

**PROMOTION GUIDELINES GRADES PREK – 6**

A student may be retained if he/she fails two or more academic subjects, one of which is Reading, for the school year with an average less than 65 in these subjects, unless their retention is not deemed to be warranted or beneficial by the building principal. Academic subjects include the following: English Language Arts (includes Reading), Mathematics, Science & Technology Education, and Social Studies.

The decision concerning student grade placement for the next school year shall be made in relation to the specific situation. The following factors will be taken into account:

1. Age
2. Academic achievement in all subject areas, especially the basic skills as determined by test and teacher judgment (i.e. MCAS)
3. Physical development
4. Social development
5. Emotional development
6. Work and study habits
7. Attendance record
8. Progression to the next grade
9. Evaluation of student's progress in relation to ability

**Process Regarding Student Placement for the Next School Year**

- Teachers will submit to the principal a list of students who at mid-year present substantial risk of non-promotion.
- Teachers will meet with parents/guardians to discuss situation and possible strategies.
- Student will be referred to the Instructional Support Team and/or Special Services.
- Team will meet with principal and parent(s)/guardian(s) to discuss student and to review the recommendations.
- The principal reserves the right to make the final decision relative to a child's promotion or retention.

**PROMOTION GUIDELINES GRADES 7 & 8**

A student will not be promoted to the next grade level if he/she fails two or more full year courses or their equivalent. One of these courses must be English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, or World Language. Under this policy, a combination of quarter or half year courses will be equivalent to a full year course.

Arrangements will be made through the guidance department for students who fail two or more courses to attend an approved summer school in the local area. A form indicating the subjects of English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, or World Language required for promotion will be issued to the student and his/her parent or guardian. In order to be promoted, the student must pass the course or courses listed on this form.

In addition to the promotion policy stated above, if he/she fails one of the following courses: English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, or World Language, he/she will be encouraged to attend an approved summer school to enhance their knowledge and acquire the necessary remediation in the failed course or courses.

Students will receive summer school credit only when they have completed a full year's study in the failed subject prior to taking the summer school course. The summer school grade will be noted on the student's permanent record card in parenthesis. Specific details may be obtained by contacting the guidance department.

Also:

- A student who passes summer school with a grade of 65 or better will have a "P" for Pass or "F" for Failure placed on his/her transcript.
- Both the grades of the failed course and the summer school course will appear on the transcript.
- A maximum of two summer school courses may be taken during the summer months.

If a student is not promoted at the junior high school, he/she repeats the entire grade. The principal reserves the right to make the final decision relative to a student's promotion, transfer, or retention.

Please list below any child who at mid-year presents a substantial risk of non-promotion.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Referral has been made (Y/N) \_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Referral has been made (Y/N) \_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Referral has been made (Y/N) \_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Referral has been made (Y/N) \_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Referral has been made (Y/N) \_\_\_\_

Teacher's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Room # \_\_\_\_\_

### **PROMOTION GUIDELINES GRADES 9 - 12**

The following components comprise the senior high school's promotion guidelines:

#### **GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL STUDENTS**

All students **MUST TAKE AND PASS** the following in order to graduate:

1. Four years of English (20 credits – Students must take and pass English 9 and English 10 before being eligible to take 5 credits of English electives in grades 11 and 12).
2. Three years of Mathematics (15 credits)
3. Three years of Science (15 credits – Beginning with the class of 2002, students must take and pass Integrated Laboratory Science 9, Integrated Laboratory Science 10, and 5 credits of Science electives).
4. Three years of Social Studies (15 credits – Beginning with the class of 2002, students must take and pass World History and Geography I, World History and Geography II, and U.S. History).
5. Four years of Physical Education (10 credits)
6. One half-year of Health (2.5 credits)
7. One half-year of Computer Science (2.5 credits)
8. Two years of a foreign language (beginning with the Class of 2003)
9. Career Exploration, Course 539 (2.5 credits – beginning with the Class of 2005)

## **CREDIT REQUIREMENTS**

- Students in the Class of 2002 will be required to accumulate 110 credits in order to graduate.
- Students in the Class of 2003 will be required to accumulate 115 credits in order to graduate.
- Students in the Class of 2004 and thereafter will be required to accumulate 120 credits in order to graduate.

A significant portion of the total credits must include the course requirements. A minimum of 35 credits must be taken by all students each year. Beginning with the Class of 2005, students will be required to pass the following number of credits to be promoted to the next grade level.

- 30 credits to move from Grade 9 to Grade 10, and this must include the successful completion of English and Math
- 60 credits to move from Grade 10 to Grade 11, and this must include the successful completion of English and Math
- 90 credits to move from Grade 11 to Grade 12, and this must include the successful completion of English and Math
- 120 credits to graduate

Note: Students must get credits in the required courses (see Graduation Requirements for All Students) as well as in electives.

## **HOW CREDITS ARE EARNED**

A subject's credit value is based on the number of class meetings per week. For example, a subject that meets 5 times a week will carry a value of 5. A course that meets 5 times a week for one-half of the school year will carry a credit value of 2.5. A course that meets every other day for one-half of the school year will carry a credit value of 1.25.

***Agawam Public Schools***  
**Adopted by School Committee on 11/12/02**  
**(Vote: 5-0-2 absent)**