

PROMOTION/ACCELERATION/RETENTION

The Shelton Public School System 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 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. This established 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, performance on state mandated assessments and other district testing instruments. Attendance in school will also be monitored. Any necessary retention should take place as early as possible in a student's educational career.

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

The Shelton Public School System desires to eliminate the practice of promoting students to the next grade level for social reasons even though they are failing academically. The district 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 grade levels by demonstrating growth in learning and meeting grade-level standards in reading, writing, mathematics, and science as established by the State Department of Education. 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.

In all cases of promotion, acceleration, or retention, the parent/guardian is to be fully involved and informed throughout the decision-making process. Parents will be notified as early as possible that retention is being considered. The building administrator shall be responsible for making the final decision as to promotion, retention, or acceleration.

For students in Grades 9-12, progress toward meeting the requirements for promotion shall be based on the student's ability to meet the mandated graduation requirements for promotion as defined and published by Shelton High School in alignment with Connecticut Department of Education Guidelines and posted in the Graduation Requirements Policy and Administrative Regulations.