

# PROMOTION & RETENTION POLICY

## PROMOTION POLICY

The Wilkinson County School District is dedicated to the total and continuous development of each student. A student's progress is the responsibility of all stakeholders involved in the educational process: the student, his or her parents, and the school faculty and staff.

The curriculum is based on the *Mississippi Curriculum Frameworks*, as developed by the Mississippi Department of Education. Parents are encouraged and expected to be actively involved in their child's education.

### Elementary Grades K-3:

Students must maintain a D (70) or above in the core subjects of English-Language Arts, Reading, and Math. Students are required to attain the skill levels set forth in the Mississippi College and Career Readiness Standards which was adopted and implemented in all Kindergarten through Second Grade Mississippi public schools during school year 2014-2015.

- If a student's reading deficiency is not remedied by the end of the student's **Third Grade** year, as demonstrated by the student scoring at the lowest (2) achievement levels on the annual state summative assessment for Third Grade, the student **shall not** be promoted to the Fourth Grade unless the student meets the good cause exemptions for promotion.

### Elementary Grades 4-5:

A student must pass with a D (70) or above in Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies in order to be promoted.

#### **Elementary and Middle School Grading Scale**

A=95-100

B=85-94

C=75-84

D=70-74

F=69 and below

\*All promotion and retention decisions will be made at the end of the school year. Parental Consent is not required for retention.

## **Literacy Based Promotion Act**

S.B. No. 2347: Literacy-Based Promotion Act; establish in public schools to achieve grade-level reading by end of 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade. Passed during the 2013 legislative session and updated in 2018, the Literacy-Based Promotion Act places an emphasis on grade-level reading skills for students, particularly as they progress through grades K-3. As of the 2018 amendment, a student scoring in the lowest (2) achievement levels on the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade summative assessment will be retained. Students may only be promoted to 4th grade if they meet the good cause exemptions for promotion as defined by the Literacy Based Promotion Act.

## **Middle School Course/Class Requirements**

Successful completion of a course shall be based upon mastery of the competencies and objectives in the WWMS Curriculum, with a grade average of D (70) or higher as the final grade in the course.

- A student in grade 6 must have a final grade average of a D (70) or higher average in the core academic program, including English, Math, Science, and Social Studies.
- A student in grade 7 must have a final grade average of a D (70) or higher average in the core academic program, including English, Math, Science, Social Studies, and Learning Strategies (if applicable).
- A student in grade 8 must have a final grade average of a D (70) or higher average in the core academic program, including English, Math, Science, Social Studies/Mississippi Studies/Geography, Cyber Foundations courses, and Learning Strategies (if applicable).
- Students in grades 6 – 8 who fail to complete one (1) or two (2) core subjects may have the opportunity to complete the deficiencies in an Extended School Year (ESY) program. If the student does not attend nor successfully complete the course objectives in ESY, the student will be retained in the current grade.

Students in grades 6 – 8 who do not complete the requirements for three or more core subjects will be retained in the current grade. ESY will not be an option and the entire grade-level must be repeated. The report card shall serve as notice to parents of the student's progress throughout the school year.

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## **Classification of High School Students:**

- Freshmen: Students who completed 8<sup>th</sup> grade in an accredited school; (successfully mastering English I)
- Sophomores: Students who have earned at least 8 credits; (successfully mastering English II)
- Juniors: Students who have earned at least 14 credits; (successfully mastering English III)
- Seniors: Students who have earned at least 18 credits;

**Graduate:** A student having met all Mississippi graduation requirements and all local requirements.

## **Mississippi Assessment Component of Graduation Requirements**

Beginning in school year 2001-2002, all SATP (Subject Area Testing Program) tests count for graduation. A student's graduation requirements are determined by the year he/she enters 9th grade.

In all instances students shall meet the graduation requirements found in the current Mississippi Accountability Standards, Appendix A-5, published by the Mississippi Department of Education, and in the Mississippi State Board of Education Policy, Graduation Requirements, Chapter 36

Specific Graduation Requirements will be provided to parents and students in the Wilkinson County School District Parent/Student Handbook. See the Handbook for details.

### **High School Grading Scale**

A=90-100

B=80-89

C=70-79

D=65-69

F=64 and below

\*All promotion and retention decisions will be made at the end of the school year. Parental Consent is not required for retention.