

PROMOTION/RETENTION PLAN

It is the desire of the Ringwood Public School District that students attend classes on a regular basis and acquire the academic proficiencies necessary to meet the expectations of each successive grade level. Ideally, year-to-year promotion of students to succeeding grade levels will take place.

The Ringwood Public School District will consider retention of students on their current grade level for an upcoming academic year for either of these independent reasons:

1. If the student fails to demonstrate mastery of the academic proficiencies of the current grade level. Such a lack of mastery indicates the student is ill-prepared to meet the academic expectations of the upcoming grade level.
2. If the student's attendance record in the current school year demonstrates unacceptable standards of attendance necessary to maintain proper academic progress. It is the belief of the Ringwood Public Schools that there is often an inverse correlation between the number of absences a student accumulates and the academic preparedness of that student, therefore, if a student accumulates more than 20 absences during a single school year, retention proceedings shall be initiated as per Ringwood School District policy (file code 5113 and file code 5113.1).

As per Ringwood School District policy (file code 6146.2), each consideration of the retention of a student is taken on a case-by-case basis. The guidelines outlined above can, *if warranted by unusual circumstances*, be over-looked if it is deemed to be in the best interest of the student.

Though the final decision regarding student retention rests with the superintendent, he/she will consult with the involved school principal who, in turn, is to consult with the members of the involved student's school community (administrators, teachers, child study team members, nurses, counselors) as well as the student's parents in arriving at the proposal to retain.

The superintendent's decision can be appealed to the Board of Education for review.