

Purpose/Background

RVS believes that placement of students in a specific grade is best determined by collaboratively following a philosophy of inclusion and what is in the best interest of students. The final determination of grade placement is the responsibility of the school principal. Student retention is not a recommended practice.

Procedures

1. Student learning and progress through grade levels will be continuous. All students from Kindergarten to Grade 9 will be placed in classrooms with age-appropriate peers.
2. If in exceptional circumstances, student retention or acceleration is considered the following process is to be followed:
 - 2.1. Student's cumulative file is reviewed by the teacher and learning support team to ensure that recommended strategies from previous assessments or grades, class reviews, collaborative problem-solving documents as well as all other relevant data, are in place or considered for implementation.
 - 2.2. The teacher notifies parents and school administration regarding concerns with the student's academic progress as early as possible in the school year clearly outlining the challenges or areas of acceleration.
 - 2.3. Responsive instruction and differentiation strategies occur within the classroom and are collected by the teacher to track growth.
 - 2.4. A plan for intervention is created, implemented, and reviewed regularly.
 - 2.5. Communication with parents regarding student progress is ongoing through the process.
3. The principal must ensure that parents are consulted about student placement and are promptly provided with written notice of the proposed placement or promotion, the rationale for the placement and are informed about appeal procedures. Appeal procedures should follow AP152 Dispute Resolution.
4. If a parent initiates a request for retention or acceleration a meeting with the classroom teacher, learning support teacher and school principal is to occur as soon as possible. Academic progress as well as social emotional growth are taken into consideration. The final decision with respect to a parental request for placement is made by the school principal and includes written notice of the placement or promotion, rationale for the placement or promotion and information regarding appeal procedures. Appeal procedures should follow AP152 Dispute Resolution.
5. No student will be retained or accelerated more than once between Kindergarten and Grade 9.

Reference:

Sections 7, 11, 31, 32, 56 Education Act
RVS AP152