

## **Promotion/Retention**

The Zillah School District requires that its students meet specified levels of academic achievement prior to promotion to the next grade. Each grade level's academic achievement standards are listed as specific benchmarks in the district adopted curriculum document that is aligned with the State of Washington's Essential Learning Requirements. The following will be used to determine if a student has met the standards and is eligible for promotion: report card grades, which will reflect teacher observation, student class work/performance, and assessments; attendance records; demonstrations of proficiency; maturity/age; and motivation.

### It is the district's responsibility to

1. establish appropriate achievement expectations consistent with the essential learning and assure that all instructional practices are developmentally appropriate;
2. communicate these expectations to students, parents (guardians), staff and the community;
3. develop an appropriate curriculum and align it with Washington State Essential Learning Requirements and State Benchmarks;
4. make available to students and parents (guardians) the benchmark standards through classroom teachers, principals, and curriculum instruction and evaluation departments;
5. use effective instructional practices to facilitate the achievement of the benchmark standards;
6. develop and assign instructional materials which assist in reinforcing classroom learning opportunities as appropriate for each grade level;
7. provide access to additional instructional and/or staff support when needed;
8. communicate regularly with the student and parents (guardians) if achievement expectations are not being met; and
9. develop and use appropriate assessment methods.

### It is the parents'/guardians' responsibility to

1. provide the school with current information about the student's address, parents' phone number at work and home, relevant student health concerns or other issues that may impact learning, student absences, student's academic and emotional needs;
2. be aware of the Washington State Essential Learning Requirements and district grade level benchmarks/expectations for promotion;
3. be supportive in the requirement of regular attendance for student achievement;
4. partner with the school in providing extended learning opportunities (e.g., tutoring, after school help, assisting in extra credit activities or classroom projects);
5. attend conferences with teachers, counselors, and principals;
6. work with teachers to improve their student's academic performance;
7. monitor and support their student's progress;
8. commit to agreements with the school for parent involvement in supporting improved student learning;
9. support the students by insuring that students have time for homework completion and encouraging extension activities and independent study/investigation; and
10. make students aware that academics are the priority and athletics are a privilege.

It is the student's responsibility to

1. assume responsibility for learning;
2. assume responsibility for attendance;
3. be aware of the Washington State Essential Learning Requirements and district grade level benchmarks/expectations for promotion;
4. put forth best effort on assessments to give the most reliable and valid information for decision making about the student's academic standing;
5. take advantage of before and after school opportunities to receive independent help; and
6. complete homework assignments "on time."

Students at risk of not being promoted will be identified as early as possible in their academic careers. To enhance the probability that students will meet promotion standards, teachers at all grade levels will identify students who are falling behind academically. Intervention strategies will be implemented (e.g., before/after school help, parent contacted, conference with teachers, counseling, special programs for remedial help many be suggested.) District staff will work with the student and his/her parents (guardians) to provide the appropriate instructional support and help the student qualify for promotion. Timely and effective communication among those involved is essential.

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Cross Reference:      Board Policy 2080      Comprehensive Student Assessment System  
                                 Board Policy 2090      Program Evaluation

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**Zillah School District**  
**Revised:**