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"Making Education Work for All Georgians"

GUIDANCE FOR CHARTER SCHOOLS REGARDING THE PROMOTION, PLACEMENT OR RETENTION OF STUDENTS

This Guidance document is designed to provide all types of charter schools with information that may be useful during a promotion or retention decision-making process.

When deciding whether a student should be promoted or retained, charter schools should carefully consider the following:

1. Assessments:

- Students **MUST** pass the 3rd grade CRCT, the 5th grade CRCT and 8th grade CRCT before they can be promoted. (See SBOE Rule 160-4-2-.11 "Promotion, Placement, and Retention")
- For grades 9-12, students are required to take the EOCT for applicable courses. Course credit, however, is not contingent on passing the EOCT. Instead, students must "pass" the class to receive credit. The numeric score on the EOCT will count for a percentage of the student's final numeric grade in the course. (See SBOE Rule 160-4-2-.13 "Statewide Passing Score")
 - The statewide numerical passing score is a 70. If letter grades instead of numerical grades are given, the charter school shall determine the relationship of letter grades to the numerical passing score.

2. School Policies:

- Charter Schools may utilize additional promotion criteria.
- For grades 9-12, charter schools may set their own criteria to determine whether a student is considered a "10th grader" or "11th grader". They must, however, follow the State Rules enumerated above since they comprise part of the Statewide Accountability System.
- Schools should ensure that promotion and retention policies are widely available to students and their parents.
- Schools should ensure that policies and their application are non-discriminatory.

3. Absences:

- Charter schools may consider a student's unexcused absences when determining course grades and/or promotion or retention.
- Note, however, SBOE Rule 160-5-1-.10 "Student Attendance" with regard to excused absences.

4. Due Process:

- Charter schools should have a procedure in place to guarantee due process with regard to promotion, placement and retention decisions as outlined in SBOE Rule 160-4-2-.11 "Promotion, Placement, and Retention".