

Grade Advancement Process DDSD

Grades K-8

Recommendation

The student, parent, or any school personnel may recommend students for grade-level advancement.

Informal Conference

1. The classroom teacher, counselor, Gifted Coordinator, and/or principal meet with the parent(s) or caregiver(s) to explain policy and procedures.
2. Reasons for recommendations including student's academic level and attitude about grade skipping are presented.
3. The teacher discusses current curriculum modifications for the student in the present classroom.
4. If agreement is reached to pursue consideration of grade advancement, the next procedural steps are discussed.

Data Collection

1. Gifted Coordinator and Student Evaluation Center Staff to determine cognitive ability by administering a CogAT test and DAS, WISC test.
2. Test scores, work samples, TAG Student Plan, behavioral records, anecdotal records, etc., are collected and attached
3. The Gifted Coordinator completes the Iowa Acceleration Scale with input from the teacher, student, and parent/caregiver.
4. Information collected is presented to the Principal, teacher, and counselor for evaluation; a decision is reached; and a recommendation is made.

Parent Conference

1. The counselor, teacher, and principal present recommendations to parent(s)/caregiver(s) and the student;
2. Parents and students add their signatures to the Grade Level Advancement Decision.
3. Parents have a right to appeal the decision in writing to the Assistant Superintendent of Elementary or Secondary.

Timeline

This procedure may take place at any time throughout the school year and is a lengthy process.

K-12

In all grades, there is a trial period of one term or semester with the student's adjustment being assisted by the school counselor. The student should be aware that if it does not go well he or she may be moved back to the original grade. Caution is needed not to build up excessive expectations from grade advancement. The student should not be made to feel he or she is a failure if he/she does not do well.

All documentation will be placed in the student's cumulative file and the student's TAG plan will reflect advancement decisions. Any grade advancement decision is based on a particular student's needs. The final decision is the responsibility of the principal(s) involved and the procedures listed above may be modified to fit any unique circumstances.