

STUDENT GRADE LEVEL PLACEMENT

Background

The BC Curriculum supports inclusive classrooms, continuous learning alongside age-appropriate peers and differentiated instruction with targeted supports and ongoing appropriate challenge to engage all learners.

Education research consistently demonstrates that the potential for negative effects consistently outweighs the potential for positive outcomes when holding students back or having them skip a grade.

Therefore, requests for student retention or advancement are not supported in the Campbell River school district without exceptional circumstances. We also do not support staff initiating a student retention or advancement request.

Only in rare instances a parent request for student retention or advancement may be considered. In these instances the following procedures will apply.

Procedures

1. When a parent or guardian requests retention or advancement for their child, principals will clearly communicate the district approach and rationale.
2. If the principal feels the request is exceptional, it will be discussed with the associate superintendent and director of inclusive education prior to holding a school-based meeting or entering into any further discussion with parents/guardians.
3. If consideration is supported, the principal will organize a meeting with the school-based team and the parents/guardians to discuss the request. In the meeting, the school will:
 - 3.1 Provide the parents/guardians with the opportunity to share their related concerns;
 - 3.2 Review the district rationale and approach;
 - 3.3 Develop a personalized plan to promote the student with age-appropriate peers, providing support and intervention.
4. Following the meeting with the school-based team and the parents/guardians, the meeting notes and other relevant accompanying documentation will be shared with the associate superintendent and director of inclusive education for discussion and final decision by the educational leadership team.
5. The principal will inform the parents/guardians of the decision. In the event that a parent disputes their child's grade placement, the parent shall have the right to appeal in accordance with Section 11 of the School Act following the board's appeals bylaw.

Reference: *BC School Act*
 School District No 72 Bylaw No.1: Appeals to the Board of Education