

## Addison Northwest School District

D2

### **Acceleration/Retention of Students (Grades K-6)**

A goal of ANWSD is for each student to progress in his or her educational program by reaching a standard of achievement necessary to progress grade to grade. Grade level placement is based on a student's age (Vermont Title 16, 1073. "Legal pupil" defined: access to school).

#### Definitions

- Acceleration is the advancement of a student by more than one grade beyond the current grade level.
- Promotion is the single grade step most students take from year to year.
- Retention allows a student to repeat all or part of a grade.
- School Team is a group that works directly with the student and consist of school administrator, classroom teacher, parent and any other individual who works consistently and directly with the student.

If a school team determines that a grade level placement requires review, the following procedure will be followed:

1. A recommendation for acceleration or retention is brought to the principal prior to the mid-point (before February recess) of the school year for which the consideration is being made.
2. The principal oversees the process and brings the recommendation to the Education Support Team, or the other school-based team, including all relevant staff involved (teachers, school counselor, etc.).
3. Data and evidence will be collected and reviewed to inform a decision on retention or acceleration that is in the developmental, social, and academic best interests of the student. (e.g., evidence of the student's performance in the classroom, interventions and supports available to the student).
4. The team will make a final recommendation to the principal. The principal will make the final determination, which is not subject to appeal.
5. The teacher will arrange a meeting with the student's parent/guardian and outline the reasons for the decision.