



STILLWATER
AREA
SCHOOLS

RESULTS

Policy Title	Policy Level	Date Approved
Student Placement in Academic Program	R 1.5	Policy Adopted: 6-28-71 Reviewed: 5-08-85

It is the policy of I.S.D. 834 to place each student in the academic program best suited to provide opportunity for the highest level of academic achievement, and social and emotional development.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES AND REGULATIONS

Changes in placement shall be determined by professional staff that are completely appraised of all student specified data and in consultation with parents and others with relevant information. Changes will always be made after prior notification and explanation to each pupil's parents/guardians, but the final decision will rest with the school authorities.

Approved: 1-01-72
Reviewed: 5-08-85

Promotion Acceleration Retention

Modern elementary schools are taking a new look at the old policy of failing those students who for any reason do not meet the required standards set up for their grade level. Research has shown that many times these students fail to do any better the second year in the same grade and the subsequent years also prove to be somewhat ineffective.

Modern education with its individualized programs and continuous progress plans, finds retention in general an ineffectual method of treating the educational ills.

Any retentions which are permitted in our schools must have a definite purpose or reason. They must be in the best interests of the individual child.

Specifically, the plan used in I.S.D. 834 is as follows:

1. When children enter kindergarten classes of this district, the only requirement for entrance is a certain chronological age. The children are alike, therefore, in one respect; but they differ widely in other traits, especially in physical, emotional and mental development.
2. When a child is found in the early grades definitely immature and unable to grasp the fundamental aspects of school problems, such as the ability or readiness for reading, it may be best to retain him or her in his grade for another year. This shall be done only after careful study and consultation by

the teacher with the principal, the elementary counselor, the school psychologist, and the parents. Physical, mental and emotional problems must be analyzed.

There shall be very few failures during the process of a child through the rest of the elementary school. It shall be the aim and goal of the teacher to get maximum performance and achievement out of each child in accordance with his or her ability. Only in extenuating circumstances and then only if it can be shown that it is for the best interest of the child shall he or she be failed during this period in his or her school life.

Acceleration and Enrichment

The plan of the district is to enrich the program at each level to the extent possible before accelerating (proceeding to next year's curriculum).

The early identification of children of unusual ability enrolled in the schools shall be the joint responsibility of all members of the professional staff. As one means of adapting the school program to the needs of the individual student, a plan of double promotion is authorized.

To insure the judicious application of this plan, a program of referral and screening shall be established. Drawing upon all possible sources of relevant information, a screening committee will be convened to consider the ability, social, emotional and physical factors involved in the growth of the student.

Recommended programs of enrichment and/or acceleration/retention shall be implemented by the school principal with such help as shall be called for from counselors, teachers, specialists and consultants.

Placement

Adopted: 9-12-85

Gifted Children Program/High Potential Students

High potential students are those with outstanding learning abilities or outstanding talents.

The District shall provide educational programs for the gifted and talented that include a broad spectrum of learning experiences which increase knowledge and develop skills necessary for the student to function successfully in society while encouraging students to excel in areas of special competence and interest.

It is essential that the identification of high potential students be a continuing process.