

8<sup>th</sup> GRADE ADVANCEMENT POLICY

The philosophy of the De Soto Area School District is for ALL students to achieve optimal learning based on high expectations and considerations of their abilities and needs. The School Board recognizes that students have diverse capabilities and interests and individual patterns for growth and learning. Therefore, the School Board believes it is important that teachers have as much accurate knowledge of each student as is possible through tests and observations of students' ability and achievement, work habits, skills and health.

Because the promotion of students from the fourth grade to the fifth grade and from the eighth to the ninth grade is affected by State Statutes (ss. 118.33)(6)(A), this grade advancement policy applies to such promotions. Other district policies relating to the promotion of students apply if they are not inconsistent with this policy. Beginning on September 1, 2002, no student may be promoted from the fourth grade to the fifth grade or from the eighth grade to the ninth grade unless the student satisfies the criteria in this policy. Grade advancements will be based on the four criteria listed below. For those students opted-out of the WKCE (WSAS testing) judgment will be based on the other three specified criteria.

1. The student receives scores of basic or above on three (3) or more of the 6 sub-tests that comprise the WKCE (WSAS test). **AND**
2. The student achieves a cumulative grade point average of 2.0. **AND**  
(4<sup>th</sup> grade only) By scoring at the basic or above level on the Wisconsin Reading Comprehension Test. **OR**
3. By successfully completing the Goals and Objectives on the Individual Education Plan (IEP). **OR**
4. Securing a recommendation from the grade advancement committee (5 teachers of the student, the guidance counselor and the principal). A recommendation is reached by majority ballot.

**AND**

The child will participate in remedial programs as determined by the grade advancement committee.

Approved: August 23, 2004

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