

DE SOTO AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

345.41

GRADE LEVEL ACCELERATION

Acceleration is the adjustment of learning time to meet the individual needs of students leading to higher levels of abstraction, more creative thinking and more difficult content. One method of acceleration is movement to the next grade, as outlined in this policy. Acceleration is not a cure-all, and a given child may require guidance regardless of the decision to accelerate or not. The De Soto Area School District supports the judicious use of acceleration when there is compelling evidence that the student is likely to benefit academically and/or socially.

Decisions regarding grade level acceleration shall be consistent with the following criteria:

1. Acceleration should not be used where enrichment is sufficient to meet individual needs.
2. Acceleration decisions shall be formed by a team approach and the team recommendation shall occur after consideration of a variety of factors.
3. Acceleration can provide positive benefits with parent/guardian involvement. Acceleration decisions shall be a mutually agreeable decision to both parents/guardians and school.
4. Acceleration is preferred in the early grades. It should take place at the start of the school year or at the semester.

Decisions regarding grade level acceleration shall be made in accordance with established procedures.

LEGAL REF.: Sections 118.14 Wisconsin Statutes
118.24(2) (a)

CROSS REF.: 345.41-Rule, Grade Level Acceleration Procedures

APPROVED: January 8, 2007
