

4120 Enrichment and Acceleration of Students

Seldom does a child benefit by advancing more than one grade per year. When acceleration occurs, the student may miss valuable steps in his development. He/she frequently does not have the maturity and experience to do the work and establish the necessary social relationships for the next grade and may display academic and social maladjustment. Therefore, it is recommended that a teacher provide enrichment rather than acceleration. This enrichment may be by hobbies, research on related subjects, crafts, art and music, and additional subjects taken by use of current technology.

When the child's

1. Personal work habits and attitudes
2. Physical development and health
3. Social adjustment
4. Achievement in the basic skills as determined by achievement tests and observation of the teacher
5. Age
6. Attitude of parents

seem to necessitate advancement, the teacher and superintendent may work out a plan whereby a child, over a period of time, may make up a year's work by taking a subject or two of the next grade while continuing the work of his own grade. Because of alternation patterns in the curriculum, it is recommended that acceleration be completed by the end of the fourth grade school year.

In cases where the parent makes a written request, the following criteria are to be followed:

1. The student is expected to have a score which places him/her at the 90th percentile or above in each area of the union approved standardized achievement test.
2. The student must demonstrate satisfactory evidence of academic, emotional, and social readiness for advanced placement to the school staff and to the parents.
3. Prior written requests for advancement of the student in elementary education (i.e. two years in one, or three years in two) must be submitted to the conference office of education. Written approval from the office of education must be on file at the school.
4. The student must maintain an average or above level of achievement on the accelerated program.
5. The content areas for every grade must be covered.