



**SEEDS OF FAITH  
CHRISTIAN ACADEMY**

Policy No. 208  
Section: Pupils  
Title: Promotion/Retention  
Acceleration  
Adopted: June 22, 2016  
Revised:

1. Purpose

It is the belief of the SFCA Board that an expectation of student achievement be established for each grade level and monitored in a continuous and systematic manner. It is expected that students have access to instructional programming that allows for progression from grade to grade each year by demonstrating proficiency in skills and concepts appropriate to their present grade assignment. It is the philosophy of the Board that placement of a student in a grade assignment be made on the basis of mastery and demonstration of academic achievement and attainment of prescribed standards of proficiency.

2. Authority

The Board establishes that each student shall be promoted annually in a continuous pattern of achievement and development that corresponds with the academic achievement and attainment of prescribed standards of proficiency for each grade assignment.

The Board does not support the action of social promotion as a recommended practice of passing a student to the next higher grade assignment who has not successfully completed the requirements of his/her present grade.

3. Definition

**Promotion** to the next grade assignment occurs when a student demonstrates growth in learning and by meeting and/or exceeding the grade level standards of proficiency determined for the present grade assignment.

**Retention** to the present grade assignment occurs when a student did not make adequate progress and has not met the majority of the expected standards of proficiency determined for that grade assignment.

**Acceleration** to a recommended appropriate type of placement occurs when a student has progressed beyond age appropriate course work and/or grade level groupings.

4. Delegation  
of  
Responsibility

The Administrator/Principal or designee shall implement and oversee the guidelines relative to the promotion, retention, and acceleration of students.

The recommendation of the classroom teacher (elementary) or core teachers (secondary) shall be required for determination of promotion, retention, or acceleration.

While parental concerns and considerations will be recognized in determining promotion, retention, and acceleration, the school shall not abdicate its legal responsibility for determining student assignment. In all cases where common agreement cannot be reached, the Administrator/Principal shall be assigned the final responsibility for determining the promotion, retention, or acceleration of each student.

5. Guidelines

The school shall utilize multiple measures of academic performance as determinants in decisions of promotion, retention, and acceleration and communicate such to students and parents. Formal and informal assessments, academic achievement, attitude, effort, work habits, behavior, attendance, and other factors deemed relative to learning shall be considered in a decision to promote, retain, or accelerate.

The promotion, retention, or acceleration of Kindergarten students shall be evidenced by developmental readiness in physical, social, emotional, and intellectual proficiency as measured by formal and/or informal assessment standards.

The promotion or retention of elementary level students shall be based on the student's ability to achieve satisfactory progress in Bible, language arts, reading, mathematics, science, and social studies as measured by formal grade level assessment standards and/or final grade calculation.

Progress toward high school graduation shall be based on the student's ability to achieve the prescribed academic standards and pass the required subjects and electives necessary to earn the number of credits mandated by the Board for graduation.

In the event of a potential retention decision, parents shall be informed of the possibility well in advance of such action and be fully informed and involved in the process of notification and attempted redemption if applicable.

Students in grades 9 through 12 and who have failed one or two subjects necessary for graduation and/or promotion requirements, have the opportunity to retake one or two failed subjects in a summer school program for credit and with prior approval from the Administrator/Principal. Students who fail two core subjects and elect to forgo a summer school program of remediation shall be retained in their present grade assignment.

Students in grades 10 through 12 have the opportunity to be granted where appropriate, college level course work upon recommendation of the Administrator/Principal. The cost of tuition shall be applied to each student. Parents/guardians will assume all book and related costs for the course work.

Parents dissatisfied with the final decision of a student assignment may make a written appeal to the Board.