

**RESOLUTION REGARDING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PROMOTION REQUIREMENTS**

**WHEREAS**, the Board adopted an Elementary School Promotion Policy, Board Report 09-1028-PO2, as amended by Board Resolution 12-0523-RS1 and Board Resolution 13-0522-RS2 (the "Policy"), which identifies promotion criteria for elementary students in the benchmark grades of 3, 6 and 8;

**WHEREAS**, the Policy specifies the following three promotion criteria: (1) classroom grades of "C" or better in Reading and Math, which grades reflect satisfactory unit test scores and consistent completion of homework assignments during the year, (2) scores on the Standard Achievement Test – Tenth Edition (SAT-10) district-wide assessment in Reading and Math at or above the 24<sup>th</sup> National Percentile Ranking, and (3) no more than nine unexcused absences;

**WHEREAS**, the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) is in the process of establishing a new assessment system that is aligned with the Common Core State Standards and in doing so is in the process of replacing the Illinois Standards Achievement Test (ISAT) assessment with the new Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) assessment;

**WHEREAS**, due to this transition, beginning spring 2014, ISBE will no longer include SAT-10 as a component of ISAT and therefore the Board must identify an alternate district-wide assessment for use in evaluating benchmark grade students for promotion;

**WHEREAS**, until ISBE establishes and fully implements the PARCC assessment system aligned with Common Core State Standards, the Board has determined, as an interim measure, to identify Northwest Evaluation Association's Measures of Academic Progress Assessment (NWEA) as the district-wide assessment for use in evaluating students in addition to their classroom grades and attendance for promotion eligibility at the end of the school year;

**WHEREAS**, during the transition to the new PARCC assessment the Board (a) does not wish to disadvantage students and therefore must recognize the variation in National Percentile results when evaluating NWEA vs. SAT-10, and (b) wishes to build a system of supports for students to address their existing educational needs while also aiding the student to meet the new Common Core State Standards;

**WHEREAS**, during the transition to the new PARCC assessment, the Board has determined to modify the Policy to specify that students with (a) NWEA scores below the 24<sup>th</sup> National Percentile Ranking but at or above the 11<sup>th</sup> National Percentile Ranking will be eligible for Promotion With Supports if the student also has a classroom grade of "C" or better; and (b) NWEA scores at or above the 24<sup>th</sup> National Percentile Ranking will be eligible for promotion if the student also has passing classroom grades;

**WHEREAS**, during the transition to the new PARCC assessment, the Board has further determined to continue administering the SAT-10 as the summer assessment and to maintain the standards referenced in the Policy for those student's required to score at or above the 24<sup>th</sup> percentile on the summer assessment to be eligible for promotion to the next grade level following summer school;

**WHEREAS**, the Office of Teaching and Learning shall establish a program for benchmark students who qualify for Promotion With Supports either at the end of the school year or at the end of summer school, that provides ongoing supports at the next grade level that are aligned with the student's needs and that also support their transition to achieve under the Common Core State Standards; and

**WHEREAS**, in furtherance of these objectives, Board hereby resolves to amend the Policy as set forth below.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CHICAGO BOARD OF EDUCATION:**

Beginning with promotion determinations made at the end of the 2013-2014 school year,

1. NWEA shall be used as the district-wide assessment to evaluate students in addition to their grades and attendance for promotion eligibility at the end of the school year.
2. Benchmark grade students with NWEA scores in Reading and Math at or above the 24<sup>th</sup> National Percentile Ranking who also have passing grades in Reading and Math, shall be eligible to be promoted to the next grade.
3. Benchmark grade students with NWEA scores in Reading or Math or both below the 24<sup>th</sup> National Percentile Ranking but at or above the 11<sup>th</sup> National Percentile Ranking who also have a "C" grade or better in Reading and Math, shall be eligible to be Promoted With Supports to the next grade level rather than referred to summer school.
4. Benchmark grade students with NWEA scores in Reading or Math or both at or below the 10<sup>th</sup> National Percentile Ranking shall be referred to summer school.
5. Benchmark grade students with classroom grades in Reading or Math or both of "D" or "F" shall be referred to summer school. However, students with NWEA scores in Reading and Math at or above the 24<sup>th</sup> National Percentile Ranking who have a "D" grade in Reading and Math or a combination of "D" grade together with "C" grade or better in Reading and Math, shall be eligible to be promoted to the next grade level rather than referred to summer school.
6. Once referred to summer school, a benchmark grade student must satisfy the promotion requirements set out in the Policy to be eligible to be Promoted with Supports to the next grade level.
7. The Office of Teaching and Learning shall implement a program for benchmark grade students who qualify for Promotion With Supports either at the end of the school year or at the end of summer school, that provides ongoing supports at the next grade level that are aligned with the student's needs and support their transition to achieve under the Common Core State Standards.
8. All references in the Policy to the Office of Instruction shall now be deemed to reference the Office of Teaching and Learning.