

Middle School Promotion Criteria 2011 – 2012

Sixth Grade Students

(For Promotion to 7th Grade)

Must earn passing grade averages **each** semester *with connections classes combined into one semester average*. Students must earn a passing grade average both semesters in order to pass the course for the school year. Both Language Arts and Math must have passing averages **each** semester. Students must pass **4 out of 5 classes** for the school year.

First Semester – average of 1st & 2nd nine weeks progress report grades
Second Semester – average of 3rd & 4th nine weeks progress report grades

Seventh Grade Students

(For Promotion to 8th Grade)

Must achieve a passing score on **each** of the following:

* CRCT Reading * CRCT Language Arts * CRCT Math * CRCT Science * CRCT Social Studies

Eighth Grade Students

(For Promotion to 9th Grade)

Must earn passing grade averages **each** semester *with connections classes combined into one semester average*. Students must earn a passing grade average both semesters in order to pass the course for the school year. Both Language Arts and Math must have passing averages **each** semester. Students must pass **4 out of 5 classes** for the school year.

First Semester – average of 1st & 2nd nine weeks progress report grades
Second Semester – average of 3rd & 4th nine weeks progress report grades

Must achieve a passing score on **each** of the following:

* CRCT Reading * CRCT Math * Georgia 8th Grade Writing Assessment

Special Education and English Language Learner Programs – Grades 6, 7 & 8

- Promotion decisions for students in special education programs are determined by the IEP.
- Special Education students must participate in either GAA or CRCT.
- Promotion decisions for 6th and 7th grade ELL students are guided by the AKS Modification/Intervention Plan.
- 8th grade ELL students must meet state promotion requirements unless exceptions are approved by a SST.
- *If first year in a U.S. school*, ELL students must participate in ACCESS as well as Math and Science CRCT.
- All other ELL students must participate in ACCESS and *all sections of the CRCT*.

Summer School Opportunity

Students may participate in summer school to make-up a semester failure, but not a year long failure in a particular subject. Middle school students who attend summer school may take no more than two subject area classes for promotion.

Additionally, summer school is recommended for students who have not passed one or more of the following:

- a 7th or 8th grade CRCT subtest that is required for promotion
- the Georgia 8th Grade Writing Assessment that is required for promotion (These students will be provided retests prior to the end of the school year and, if necessary, may attend summer school.)

Retests for these state and local assessments will be provided at the end of summer school.

Middle School Review Procedures 2011 – 2012

7th Grade

What happens if a child has earned good grades all year, but unexpectedly fails one or more subtests on the CRCT?

System Review

For CRCT subtests in reading, English/language arts, and math ...

If a 7th grader earns a semester average of “C” or better on progress reports during the year in the subject areas tested Language Arts and Math, but unexpectedly fails, an automatic “Review Procedure” is launched. (First semester grades are the average of progress report grades for the 1st and 2nd nine weeks. Second semester grades are the average for the 3rd and 4th nine weeks.) An impartial committee reviews the student’s grades and other information provided by teachers and parents. The committee then recommends to the Board of Education one of the following options:

- waive passage of the CRCT for this student;
- waive passage of the test, but recommend summer school; or
- require passing the content-area retest before being promoted to 8th grade.

Local School Review

For the CRCT Science subtest...

If a 7th grader earns a semester average of “C” or better during the year in science, but fails the CRCT science, then passage of the CRCT is waived for that subject. However, summer school may be recommended.

For the CRCT Social Studies subtest...

If a 7th grader earns a semester average of “C” or better during the year in social studies, but fails the CRCT social studies, then passage of the CRCT is waived for that subject. However, summer school may be recommended.

8th Grade

What if a student does not pass the 8th grade Gateway?

System Review

For CRCT subtests in writing...

If an 8th grader earns a semester average of “C” or better on progress reports during the year in language arts, but unexpectedly fails the writing Gateway, an automatic “Review Procedure” is launched. (First semester grades are the average of progress report grades for the 1st and 2nd nine weeks. Second semester grades are the average for the 3rd and 4th nine weeks.) An impartial committee reviews the student’s grades and other information provided by teachers and parents. The committee then recommends to the Board of Education one of the following options:

- waive passage of the CRCT for this student;
- waive passage of the test, but recommend summer school; or
- require passing the content-area retest before being promoted to 8th grade.

What happens if a student does not meet the state-set grade-level expectations on the CRCT?

Extra help is available to students who do not pass in order to prepare them for the retest.

- If a student is still unsuccessful after the retest, an appeal may be conducted through the Student Support Team (SST) process to determine placement. The SST process will *automatically* review the placement of all students who have not met the CRCT promotion requirement, but who earned no semester average lower than a “C” during the year in language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies. (First semester grades are the average of progress report grades for the 1st and 2nd nine weeks. Second semester grades are the average for the 3rd and 4th nine weeks.) Parents may also request an appeal.
- Students who do not pass the CRCT after two attempts (in April and in summer school) and who are not promoted through the SST process will be retained in 8th grade, where they will receive additional help to improve their language arts and math skills.

