

279.65 Student advancement policy findings supplemental strategies and educational services grant program.

1. The general assembly finds and declares that students should be able to meet or exceed the expectations established by the school district of enrollment in order to advance to the next grade level.
2. The board of directors of each school district shall adopt a student advancement policy which provides for the following:
 - a. Supplemental strategies to be provided to all students in kindergarten through grade five who do not meet the grade level expectations established by the school district for English-language arts, social studies, mathematics, and science.
 - b. A requirement that students in grades six through eight who fail one or more of the core courses make up deficiencies before advancing to the next level in the subject area. "*Core course*", for purposes of this section, means a course in the following subject areas: English-language arts, social studies, mathematics, and science.
 - c. Opportunities for students to meet the school district's expectations as provided in paragraphs "*a*" and "*b*" which shall include but not be limited to supplemental educational services such as tutoring that may be offered before and after school or during the summer and that may be provided by private service providers.
3. If a student in kindergarten through grade eight does not meet the grade level core course expectations established by the school district as provided in this section, the school district shall develop a plan for supplemental strategies or supplemental educational services, and for measuring student progress, in consultation with the student's parent or guardian.
4. In deciding student placement and advancement, the board of directors of a school district shall make every effort to reach agreement with parents and guardians.
5. A supplemental strategies and educational services grant program is established to be administered by the department of education to award grants to school districts for purposes of providing supplemental strategies and educational services to students who do not meet the grade level expectations established by the school district for English-language arts, social studies, mathematics, and science. The department shall develop the criteria and a process for awarding supplemental strategies and educational services grants to school districts when moneys are appropriated for the grant program. By January 15 of the fiscal year following each fiscal year for which the general assembly appropriated funds to the department of education for purposes of this subsection, the department shall assess the effectiveness of the program and shall submit its findings and recommendations in a report to the general assembly.