

# **Student Progression Plan**

**2015-2016**



**CALHOUN COUNTY  
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**THE STUDENT PROGRESSION PLAN  
FOR THE CALHOUN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
FOR THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR**

DATE APPROVED: 9/13/2015

---

PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STUDENT PROGRESSION PLAN FOR CALHOUN COUNTY:

ALTA PUBLIC SCHOOL	Sue Price
BLOUNTSTOWN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	Pam Bozeman
BLOUNTSTOWN MIDDLE SCHOOL	Neva Miller
BLOUNTSTOWN HIGH SCHOOL	Debbie Williams
CARR ELEMENTARY/MIDDLE SCHOOL	Darryl Taylor, Jr.
ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION	Ladona Kelley

---

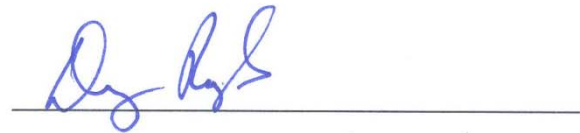
WE HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS STUDENT PROGRESSION PLAN FOR THE CALHOUN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT HAS BEEN REVIEWED AND APPROVED.

Danny Ryals	District 1
Kelly King	District 2
Tim Smith	District 3
Kenneth Speights	District 4
Danny Hassig	District 5



---

Ralph Yoder  
Superintendent



---

Danny Ryals  
Board Chairperson



**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

INTRODUCTION ..... 5

PURPOSE ..... 5

GOALS ..... 5

RESPONSIBILITIES ..... 6

GENERAL PROVISIONS-GRADES K-12..... 7

    REQUIRED INSTRUCTION ..... 7

    ATTENDANCE ..... 9

    TRANSFER STUDENTS..... 12

    ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS (ELL) ..... 12

    EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT EDUCATION..... 14

    END OF YEAR ACADEMIC PROGRESS ..... 14

    PROMOTION/RETENTION ..... 16

    UNIFORM GRADING SYSTEM/GRADE BOOKS..... 16

    Out-of-Field Teachers ..... 19

    Annual Reporting ..... 19

    ACADEMICALLY CHALLENGING CURRICULUM TO ENHANCE LEARNING (ACCEL) ..... 20

    Virtual Education..... 20

    Home Education..... 22

    Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children (iceomc) (F.S. 1000.36) ..... 23

    Assistance to Transitioning Students from Military Families..... 24

ELEMENTARY PROGRAMS-GRADES PreK-5..... 25

    Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten through First Grade ..... 25

    Elementary Curriculum Provisions..... 26

    Assessment & Remediation ..... 26

    Promotion/Retention..... 27

    Good Cause Exemptions for Grade 3 Reading ..... 28

    Remediation..... 29

    Successful Progression for Retained Third grade students F.S. 1008.25(7) ..... 29

    Progression for Students with Disabilities ..... 30

GENERAL PROVISIONS-GRADES 6-12..... 31

    Extra-Curricular Activities Participation..... 31

Middle School Programs-Grades 6-8 ..... 33

Middle Grades Promotion General Requirements .....	33
Promotion/Retention.....	35
Progression of Students with Disabilities in Grades 6-8 .....	36
High School Programs-Grades 9-12 .....	37
High School Credit--FS 1003.436 (1)(2).....	37
Accelerated Placement Options—FS 1003.4295 .....	37
Bright Futures .....	37
High school grade Level determinations.....	41
Dual Enrollment .....	43
Remedial Instruction .....	32
Forgiveness Policy .....	32
Career Technical Education Credit.....	44
Failure .....	44
Honor Graduates.....	44
Salutatorian /Valedictorian.....	45
PROGRESSION AND STANDARDS FOR GRADUATION FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES IN GRADES 9-12 .....	46
Standards for Graduation for Student with Disabilities.....	49
Dual Enrollment Articulation Agreements.....	50
ADULT SCHOOL PROMOTION AND PLACEMENT .....	50
Appendix A.....	52
Appendix B .....	53

## **INTRODUCTION**

Included within this plan are policies and procedures relative to enrollment, promotion, retention, accelerated/decelerated placement, transfers, instructional programs, acceleration programs, extended year programs, dropout prevention programs, student assessment and exceptional student education.

Calhoun County School District is committed to the implementation of a Multi-Tiered System of Student Supports framework to integrate/align efforts to improve educational outcomes and meet the academic/behavioral needs of all students. The district will provide high quality instruction/intervention matched to student needs and use learning rate and level of performance to inform instructional decisions-including decisions regarding promotion, acceleration, retention, and remediation. The Multi-Tiered System of Student Support is a “data-based decision making” process applied to education. Problem solving methods and the systematic use of assessment data, at the district, school, grade, class, and individual level, will guide decisions about the allocation of resources and intensity of instruction and/or interventions needed to improve learning and/or behavior.

Faculty, staff and administrative personnel are encouraged to become familiar with the contents of this plan. Recommendations for future changes are encouraged from all concerned. The administrative staff at all schools and the district office is available to receive any questions or concerns connected with the policies or procedures presented.

## **PURPOSE**

The Calhoun County School District is dedicated to the total and continuous development of each student. The purpose of the instructional programs in Calhoun County District schools is to provide appropriate instruction and selected services to enable students to perform academically at their expected level or higher. In recognition of the wide range of students’ abilities, motivation, interests, and development, the Student Progression Plan for Calhoun County District schools establishes procedures that are to be implemented to provide each student with the opportunity to succeed in school.

The Student Progression Plan for Calhoun County School District provides school personnel, parents/guardians, students and other interested citizens the administrative procedures necessary to implement state legislative and local student progression requirements.

## **GOALS**

The goal of the Student Progression Plan is to provide direction for students to learn and to facilitate public awareness of the requirements for each step of the educational process from kindergarten through graduation. The plan encourages programs that provide for the attainment of district, state, and national standards; it provides for options for those students who do not accomplish certain standards within a specified time period.

It is the intent of the Florida Legislature that each student’s progression from one grade to another be determined, in part, upon proficiency in reading, writing, science, social studies, and mathematics; that district school board policies facilitate such proficiency; and that each student and his or her parent be informed of that student’s academic progress. It is the ultimate goal of the legislature that every student read at or above grade level.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES**

In developing and implementing the Student Progression Plan, the following responsibilities should be understood:

- A.** It is the responsibility of the School Board and the Administration of Calhoun County School District to provide all students with research based curriculum/instruction and remedial programs. District school boards shall also assist schools and teachers to implement research-based reading activities that have been shown to be successful in teaching reading to low-performing students. Such programs will monitor progress, promote continuous achievement, and make provisions for individual differences.
  
- B.** District Boards shall allocate remedial and supplemental instructional resources to students in the following priority:
  - Students who are deficient in reading by the end of grade 3;
  - Students who fail to meet performance levels required for promotion consistent with the district school board's plan for student progression.
  
- C.** The Board, through its administrators, will accept the responsibilities of assisting teachers with the resources and staff development to accomplish these goals and will establish procedures for record keeping certifying the accomplishment of state and district standards.
  
- D.** The principal shall assume administrative responsibility for all required records and reports regarding students that transfer in the school, and for promotion or retention of students.
  
- E.** Teachers are responsible for providing effective instruction and remediation. Effectiveness will be based on evidence of academic progress and establishment of a productive learning environment, e.g. good discipline, fair treatment, development of positive incentives, etc.
  
- F.** Students must assume the responsibilities for learning. Educational responsibility commensurate with age and maturity must be accepted. Students must be accountable for being at school and in class. Courtesy and good conduct is expected of all students.

## GENERAL PROVISION-GRADES K-12

### REQUIRED INSTRUCTION

**1. Florida Standards/Next Generation Sunshine State Standards.**

Schools will provide appropriate instruction to assist students in the mastery of the Florida Standards/Next Generation Sunshine State Standards for Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Foreign Languages, the Arts and Health/Physical Education. The FL Standards/NGSSS form the basis for curriculum, instruction and evaluation of student performance.

**2. Constitution of the United States**

Instruction in the history, meaning, significance, and effect of the provisions of the Constitution of the United States and amendments thereto, with emphasis on each of the 10 amendments that make up the Bill of Rights and how the constitution provides the structure of government. Included also will be the arguments in support of adopting our republican form of government, as they are embodied in the most important of the Federalist Papers, along with flag education, including proper flag display and flag salute. The elements of civil government, including the primary functions of and interrelationships between the Federal Government, the state, and its countries, municipalities, school districts, and special districts.

**3. Declaration of Independence**

The history and content of the Declaration of Independence, including national sovereignty, natural law, self-evident truth, equality of all persons, limited government, popular sovereignty, and inalienable rights of life, liberty, and property, and how they form the philosophical foundation of our government. **F.S. 1003.421** requires that in the last full week of classes in September all schools celebrate “Freedom Week.” During this week at least three hours of in-depth instruction on the intent, meaning, and importance of the Declaration of Independence must be included in each social studies class. In addition, at the beginning of each school day or in homeroom during this week, principals and teachers must conduct an oral recitation by students of the following portion of the Declaration of Independence:

*“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. That to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed.”*

**4. United States/American History**

The history of the United States, including the period of discovery up to the present time. American History shall be viewed as factual, not as constructed, shall be viewed as knowable, teachable, and testable, and shall be defined as the creation of a new nation based largely on the universal principles stated in the Declaration of Independence.

**5. African American History**

Instruction in the history of African Americans will include the history of African peoples before the political conflicts that led to the development of slavery, the passage to America, the enslavement experience, abolition, and the contributions of African Americans to society. Instructional materials shall include the contributions of African Americans to American society.

**6. The Holocaust**

The history of the Holocaust (1933-1945), the systematic, planned annihilation of European Jews and other groups by Nazi Germany, a watershed event in the history of humanity, to be taught in a manner that leads to an investigation of human behavior, an understanding of the ramifications of prejudice, racism, and stereotyping, and an examination of what it means to be a responsible and respectful person, for the purposes of encouraging tolerance of diversity in a pluralistic society and for nurturing and protecting democratic values and institutions.



**7. Character Development Program**

The character development program shall be required of all grades K-12 and will be secular in nature. This program should stress the qualities of patriotism; responsibility; citizenship; kindness; respect for authority, life, liberty, and personal property; honesty; charity; self-control; racial, ethnic, and religious tolerance; and cooperation.

**8. Comprehensive Health Education**

Comprehensive Health Education will address concepts of community health; consumer health; environmental health; family life, including an awareness of the benefits of sexual abstinence as the expected standard and the consequences of teenage pregnancy; mental and emotional health; injury prevention and safety; Internet safety; nutrition; personal health; prevention and control of disease; and substance use and abuse. The health education curriculum for students in grades 7 through 12 shall include a teen dating violence and abuse component that includes, but is not limited to, the definition of dating violence and abuse, the warning signs of dating violence and abusive behavior, the characteristics of healthy relationships, measures to prevent and stop dating violence and abuse, and community resources available to victims of dating violence and abuse. (FS 1003.42 (2)(n))

Instruction in Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (FS 1003.46):

(1) Each district school board may provide instruction in acquired immune deficiency syndrome education as a specific area of health education. Such instruction may include, but is not limited to, the known modes of transmission, signs and symptoms, risk factors associated with acquired immune deficiency syndrome, and means used to control the spread of acquired immune deficiency syndrome. The instruction shall be appropriate for the grade and age of the student and shall reflect current theory, knowledge, and practice regarding acquired immune deficiency syndrome and its prevention.

(2) Throughout instruction in acquired immune deficiency syndrome, sexually transmitted diseases, or health education, when such instruction and course material contains instruction in human sexuality, a school shall:

(a) Teach abstinence from sexual activity outside of marriage as the expected standard for all school-age students while teaching the benefits of monogamous heterosexual marriage.

(b) Emphasize that abstinence from sexual activity is a certain way to avoid out-of-wedlock pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases, including acquired immune deficiency syndrome, and other associated health problems.

(c) Teach that each student has the power to control personal behavior and encourage students to base actions on reasoning, self-esteem, and respect for others.

(d) Provide instruction and material that is appropriate for the grade and age of the student.

**9. Physical Education**

It is the responsibility of the district school board to develop a physical education program that stresses physical fitness and encourages healthful, active lifestyles and to encourage all students in prekindergarten through grade 12 to participate in physical education. Physical education shall consist of physical activities of at least a moderate intensity level and for a duration sufficient to provide a significant health benefit to students, subject to the differing capabilities of students. All physical education programs and curricula must be reviewed by a certified physical education instructor. Calhoun County has developed a Physical Education Plan (Appendix B).

**10. Disability History and Awareness Weeks**

During the first two weeks in October each year, the School Board shall designate these two weeks as “Disability History and Awareness Weeks.” During this two week period, students may be provided intensive instruction to expand their knowledge, understanding, and awareness of individuals with disabilities, the history of disability, and the disability rights movement. The instruction may be integrated into the existing school curriculum and may be delivered by qualified school personnel or knowledgeable guest speakers with a focus on including individuals with disabilities.

**11. Other required instruction**

In appropriate classes throughout the K-12 curriculum, schools will teach the following: the elementary principals of agriculture; the true effects of all alcoholic and intoxicating liquors and beverages and narcotics upon the human body and mind; kindness to animals; the history of the state; conservation of natural resources; the study of Hispanic contributions to the United States; the study of women’s contributions to the United States; the nature and importance of free enterprise to the U.S. economy; the sacrifices that veterans have made in serving our country and protecting democratic values worldwide. Such instruction must occur on or before Veteran’s Day and Memorial Day. Members of the instructional staff are encouraged to use the assistance of local veterans when practical.

**12. Required Instruction for Middle School/High School Only**

**a. Teen Dating Violence**

The health education curriculum should provide instruction for students in grades 7 through 12 that includes a teen dating violence and abuse component that includes, but is not limited to, the definition of dating violence and abuse, the warning signs of dating violence and abusive behavior, the characteristics of healthy relationships, measures to prevent and stop dating violence and abuse, and community resources available to victims of dating violence and abuse. **F.S. 1006.148**

**b. AIDS Education**

The school centers containing grades 9 - 12 will be required to teach ninth grade students the facts about AIDS, its dangers and how it is contracted.

**13. Documentation**

Documentation for all required instruction will be lesson plans, course outlines, projects, papers, portfolios, performance tasks, examinations, other relevant instructional materials or products of any combination of types of evidence.

**ATTENDANCE**

All children who have attained the age of six years or who will have attained the age of six years by February 1 of any school year, or who are older than six years of age but who have not attained the age of 16 years, are required to attend school regularly during the entire school term.

Any child who attains the age of 16 years during the school year is not subject to compulsory school attendance beyond the date upon which he or she attains that age if the student files a formal declaration of intent to terminate school enrollment with the district school board. Public school students who have attained the age of 16 years and who have not graduated are subject to compulsory school attendance until the formal declaration of intent is filed with the district school board.

The declaration must acknowledge that terminating school enrollment is likely to reduce the student’s earning potential and must be signed by the student and the student’s parent. The school district must notify the student’s parent of receipt of the student’s declaration of intent to terminate school enrollment. The student’s guidance counselor or other school personnel must conduct an exit interview with the student to determine the reasons for the student’s decision to terminate school enrollment and actions that could be taken to keep the student in school. The student must be informed of opportunities to continue his or her education in a different environment, including, but not limited to, adult education and GED test preparation.

Additionally, the student must complete a survey in a format prescribed by the Department of Education to provide data on student reasons for terminating enrollment and actions taken by schools to keep students enrolled.

### **Attendance and Truancy Procedures**

Each parent of a child within the compulsory attendance age shall be responsible for such child's school attendance as required by **F.S. 1003.24**. Florida Statute 1003.26 requires the parent of a student to justify each absence of the student. The justification will be evaluated based on adopted district school board policies that define excused and unexcused absences.

Excused absences may only be used for the following legitimate, documented reasons:

- Illness and/or medical care
- Death in the Family
- Legal Reasons
- Religious Holidays or instruction
- Financial or other insurmountable circumstances as determined by the prior approval of the principal
- Head lice, a maximum of two days for each occurrence
- Planned absence approved in advance by the principal/designee

Examples of unexcused absences may include:

- Missing the school bus
- Oversleeping
- Shopping and/or pleasure trips
- Excessive illness (without physician verification that medical condition justifies a pattern)
- Failure to communicate the reason for the absence with the school

It is the responsibility of the parent(s) or guardian(s) to provide a written statement indicating the reason for **ALL** absences within **three (3) days** of the student's return to school.

A parent note will be accepted for **any three (3)** absences during the grading period. Any other absences will only be excused with a note from a doctor, dentist, school health nurse/aid, funeral program of an immediate family member, or documentation for a legal reason. Final determination of whether an absence or early dismissal is excused or unexcused is the responsibility of the local school principal/designee. Any planned absences, other than medical appointments, must be approved in advance by the principal/designee.

When a student has **three (3) or more unexcused absences** in a class during a grading period, the student will receive a grade of no more than 59 (F).

When a student receives a 59 (F) as a result of unexcused absences, a meeting will be scheduled with the student and/or their parents to discuss the attendance issues. An attendance contract will be offered to allow the student to replace the 59 grade(s). If the student completes the terms of the contract, the 59 grade(s) will be forgiven and replaced with the appropriate grade earned for that grading period at the end of the school year.

### **Make-Up Work**

- Student must contact their teacher upon returning to school for make-up and assignments
- Make-up work must be turned in within 5 school days from the absence
- When given advance notice of a test or assignment, it must be turned in on the day the student returns to school after the absence
- Missing work due to an absence will be given a grade of "1" until the work is made up. When the make-up period has expired and the work is incomplete, the grade will be changed to "0"
- If the teacher is absent when a student returns to school from an absence, the time to make up work may be extended
- Extension of the amount of time to make work up can be approved by the principal

For students in grades 6-12, when attending a school sponsored club event or field trip, they must be present the day before the trip and the day after the trip for the school sponsored trip to be an excused absence. The principal may excuse the absence for a legitimate, documented reason.

### **Recurring Illness**

When a student has a recurring or chronic illness, parents will be required to have their medical doctor certify the extent of the illness during grading period. **F.S. 1003.24** states, "*if a student is continually sick and repeatedly absent from school, he or she must be under the supervision of a physician in order to receive an excuse from attendance. Such excuse provides that a student's condition justifies absence from more than the number of days permitted by the district school board.*" The **Physician's Certification Form** must be picked up from the school principal.

### **Tardiness**

Students are expected to be in class on time and remain in class until the end of the class period. Students who arrive to class 10 minutes late or leave class 10 minutes early will be issued a Late Absence for that period. The school principal will determine if the Late Absence is excused or unexcused. Three unexcused Late Absences in a grading period will be considered an unexcused absence for that period.

Incentives for good attendance are encouraged, but will be at the discretion of the individual school principals.

Students with a continued pattern of absence will be referred to Truancy Court.

## **SCHOOL RESPONSIBILITY AND AUTHORITY RELATED TO TRUANCY**

If a student has had at least five (5) unexcused absences, or absences for which the reason is unknown, within a calendar month or ten (10) unexcused absences, or absences for which the reason is unknown, within a 90 calendar day period, the student's primary teacher shall report to the school principal/designee that the student may be exhibiting a pattern of non-attendance.

The principal shall, unless there is clear evidence that the absences are not a pattern of nonattendance, refer the case to the school's child study team to determine if early patterns of truancy are developing.

If the child study team finds that a pattern of nonattendance is developing, whether the absences are excused or not, a meeting with the parent must be scheduled to identify potential remedies.

After fifteen (15) unexcused absences accumulate within any ninety (90) calendar days, the District will determine the appropriate steps for the enforcement of the Florida Compulsory Attendance Statute, **Florida Statute 1003.21.**

### **TRANSFER STUDENTS**

Students who enter a Florida public school at the eleventh or twelfth grade from out of state or from a foreign country shall not be required to spend additional time in a Florida public school in order to meet the high school course requirements if the student has met all requirements of the school district, state, or country from which he or she is transferring. Such students who are not proficient in English should receive immediate and intensive instruction in English language acquisition. However, to receive a standard high school diploma, a transfer student must earn a 2.0 grade point average and meet assessment requirements. (FS 1003.433)

If a student transfers into a Calhoun County high school from out of the country, out of state, a private school, or a home education program, and that student's transcript shows a credit in Algebra 1, the student must pass the statewide, standardized Algebra 1 EOC assessment in order to earn a standard high school diploma unless the student earned a comparative score, passed a statewide assessment in Algebra 1 administered by the transferring entity, or passed the statewide mathematics assessment the transferring entity uses to satisfy the requirements of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

If a student's transcript shows a credit in high school reading or English Language Arts II or III, in order to earn a standard high school diploma, the student must take and pass statewide, standardized grade 10 ELA assessment, or earn a concordant score. (1003.4282 (8))

If a transfer student's transcript shows a final course grade and course credit in Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2, Biology 1, or United States History, the transferring course final grade and credit shall be honored without the student taking the requisite statewide, standardized EOC assessment and without the assessment results constituting 30 percent of the student's course grade.

Students entering Calhoun District Schools during the last nine weeks of a school year shall be promoted, retained, promoted for good cause, or recommended for summer school, if available, based on grades that were obtained from the student's out of district school as well as Calhoun County School District grades

A transfer student will be given special consideration consisting primarily of awarding half credits if former school assigned half credits. **SBR 6-1.099**

Private school and out-of-state students who will enroll in a Florida public school the following year may participate in the Algebra 1, Biology 1 and Geometry EOC assessments.

A Problem Solving Team will convene for transfer students 18 years old or older who come to Calhoun County Schools and are in danger of not meeting graduation requirements set forth by the state of Florida. This team, in collaboration with the parent, guardian, and/or child will determine the student's appropriate placement.

### **ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS (ELL)**

Students in the English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) program are commonly referred to as English Language Learners (ELLs), shall receive instruction in the English language, with instruction designed to develop the student's mastery of the four language skills, including listening, speaking, reading, and writing, as rapidly as possible.

The district will seek to document the prior schooling experience of English Language Learners (ELLs) by means of school records, transcripts and other evidence of educational experiences, and take such experience into account in planning and providing appropriate instruction to such students. The district shall award equal

credit for courses taken in another country or a language other than English as they would the same courses taken in the United States or taken in English. For foreign-born students, the same district adopted policies regarding age appropriate placement shall be followed as are followed for students born in the United States.

### **Placement**

The ELL Committee, which is composed of the principal or designee, guidance counselor, and any other instructional personnel responsible for the instruction of ELLs, shall make recommendations concerning the appropriate placement, promotion, and retention of ELLs. Parents or guardians of students being reviewed shall be invited to participate in meetings.

Criteria to be utilized in making appropriate placement decisions include the following:

- academic performance and progress of a student based on formal and/or alternate assessments in English and/or the student's native language,
- progress, attendance and retention reports, and number of years the student has been enrolled in the ESOL program.

The Calhoun County District ELL Plan may be accessed under Resources at the district website: <http://www.calhounflschools.org/>.

### **Assessment**

In general, all ELLs participate in the statewide assessment. As part of the No Child Left Behind legislation, all ELLs shall be assessed annually in reading, writing, listening and speaking.

Students who have been enrolled in an ESOL program for less than two school years and have met all requirements for the standard high school diploma except for passage of the statewide, standardized grade 10 ELA assessment or an alternate assessment may receive immersion English language instruction during the summer following their senior year. Students receiving such instruction are eligible to take the statewide, standardized grade 10 ELA assessment or an alternate assessment and receive a standard high school diploma upon passage of the statewide, standardized grade 10 ELA assessment or the alternate assessment. This section will be implemented to the extent funding is provided in the General Appropriations Act.

### **Promotion**

Promotion of an ELL is based on satisfactory student performance in reading, writing, mathematics and other requirements as set by the district and the state. ELLs not meeting district promotion criteria due to their limited English proficiency may be recommended for promotion with input from the ELL Committee. The student's parent or guardian shall be invited to attend.

The other academic progress and benchmark mastery of an ELL in reading, writing and mathematics, and on requirements set forth by the district and the State of Florida, are determined through appropriate modifications to formal and informal assessments and on modifications to instruction provided to the ELL.

### **Retention**

Retention of an ELL is based on unsatisfactory performance in reading, writing and mathematics as determined by the teacher and principal and in conjunction with the ELL Committee. Students cannot be retained based solely on English language acquisition.

## EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT EDUCATION

Students with disabilities are placed in appropriate programs by a staffing/ IEP eligibility committee. Specific eligibility criteria for placement in programs will be followed based on state board rules. The procedures for placement in exceptional education programs are prescribed in the Special Programs and Procedures Document.

Evaluation and staffing is required before a student can qualify for services under Section 504. Once eligibility has been determined, the student may receive accommodations and/or related services in the regular classroom setting.

Extended School Year (ESY) refers to additional special education and/or related services for students with disabilities to supplement the normal school year of 180 days. The IEP team, consisting of (at a minimum) the ESE teacher, regular education teacher, parent and LEA, must determine eligibility. Extended school year services are required if the IEP team has reason to believe that the provision of FAPE for an individual student would be jeopardized without such services. ESY is not the same as summer school--grades, nor credits, will be given.

## END OF YEAR ACADEMIC PROGRESS

**F.S .1008.25(8)(a)** requires that each district annually report to the parent of each student the progress of the student towards achieving state and district expectations for proficiency English Language Arts, science, social studies, and mathematics. The district school board must report to the parent the student's results on each statewide, standardized assessment. The evaluation of each student's progress must be based upon the students' classroom work, observations, tests, district and state assessments, and other relevant information.

At the elementary level, social studies is integrated into other subjects. Students who meet expectations in other academic areas are considered meeting the expectations for social studies.

The criteria used for student's academic progress in achieving state and district expectations for English Language Arts, science, social studies, and mathematics are as follows:

**Grade 1** Language Arts –final grade of “C” or better and teacher judgment based on classroom work for writing  
Math – final grade of “C” or better  
Science – final grade of “S” or better

**Grades 2-5** Language Arts –final grade of “C” or better  
Math –final grade of “C” or better  
Science – final grade of “C” or better

**Grades 6-8** LA/Reading –final grade of “C” or better in LA and Reading  
Math –final grade of “C” or better.  
Science -final grade of “C” or better  
Social Studies-final grade of “C” or better

**Grades 9-12** ELA/Reading final grade of “C” or better in ELA and Reading, if taken  
Math –final grade of “C” or better in the current math class  
Science –final grade of “C” or better, if taken  
Social Studies-- final grade of “C” or better, if taken

Each final report card will have the following comment, *“Students with a final grade of “C” or above have met district expectations for that course.”*

## **ASSESSMENT AND SUPPORT**

Each student must participate in the statewide, standardized assessment program required by s. 1008.22. Each student who does not achieve a Level 3 or above on the statewide, standardized English Language Arts assessment, the statewide, standardized Mathematics assignment or the Algebra 1 EOC assessment must be evaluated to determine the nature of the student's difficulty, the areas of academic need, and strategies for providing academic supports to improve the student's performance.

The areas of academic need and intervention strategies are identified through a problem-solving, response to intervention process. Multiple tiers of increasingly intense intervention services are implemented to support student academic proficiency. Students needing remediation or intensive instructional support will be matched to strategic and intensive interventions based on screening, progress monitoring and diagnostic assessments.

A student not meeting the school district or state requirements for satisfactory performance in English Language Arts and Mathematics will be covered by a school wide system of progress monitoring for all students.

**District-wide progress monitoring assessments** provide teachers with on-going information about student progress towards grade-level expectations. These tests will be administered to all students in grades K-10 and those in grades 11-12 who have not passed appropriate statewide, standardized assessments. Assessments may include, but are not limited to, curriculum based assessments, Calhoun Writes, STAR. These assessments will be used as a progress monitoring tool to determine progress towards mastery of targeted skills. The results obtained provide specific information as to each student's academic growth. Teachers will use the results to drive instruction in the classroom.

If a student's documented deficiency has not been remediated by the end of the school year, the student may be retained. If the minimum performance expectations are not met, remedial or supplemental instruction must be provided until expectations are met; the student graduates from high school or is not subject to compulsory school attendance.

The district must report in writing to the student and his/her parent or legal guardian the student's results on the statewide, standardized assessment.

**The PSAT Test** will be offered to all students in grade 10. The PSAT testing program will measure students' achievement in key subject matter areas: English, mathematics, reading, and science. The results obtained will provide schools with information for program evaluation, accreditation, guidance, and educational/career planning. It will provide students with information they need to prepare for future academic and career success.

**The Post Secondary Readiness Test** will be available for students who have a need for college prep classes.

**Students enrolled in courses with a statewide, standardized end-of-course assessment are prohibited from taking the corresponding grade-level FCAT assessment.**



## **PROMOTION/RETENTION**

At the beginning of the second semester, elementary, middle school and high school teachers must notify parents/guardians of students who are in danger of being retained the following year.

The *Student Progression Staffing Form for K-5 (Appendix A)*, is required for all students in grades K-5, who are retained or placed for good cause. A staffing committee consisting of the principal/designee, the guidance counselor, the student's classroom teacher(s), and any other personnel deemed necessary, shall review the student's records to determine if retention should occur. The committee members should be in agreement that decisions made are in the best interest of the student, and that all other alternatives have been exhausted or would be ineffectual. In cases, where evidence received, supports that retention would not be in the best interest of the student, the student may be placed for good cause.

Prior to the time that a student is placed or retained, contact with the parent or legal guardian will be held to review the student's progress, Progress Monitoring Plan or Individual Education Plan. Retention will only be made following a parent conference. If parent contact is impossible, the principal must approve the recommended placement.

## **UNIFORM GRADING SYSTEM/GRADE BOOKS**

Elementary, middle, and high school students will regularly be issued report cards. These report cards must clearly depict and grade the student's academic performance in each class or course in Grades 1 through 12 based on examinations as well as written papers, class participation, and other academic performance criteria, and must include the student's performance or nonperformance at his or her grade level; the student's conduct and behavior; and the student's attendance, including absences and tardiness.

The final report card for a school year shall contain a statement indicating end-of-the-year status regarding performance or nonperformance at grade level, acceptable or unacceptable behavior and attendance, and promotion or non-promotion.

Schools shall not exempt students from academic performance requirements, based on practices or policies designed to encourage student attendance. A student's attendance record may not be used in whole or in part to provide an exemption from any academic performance requirement. FS1003.33(2)

### **1. Grades**

- For students in kindergarten, a standards-based report card will be used to measure progress. The grading code will be as follows:

0-Not Yet Demonstrating  
1-Emerging  
2-Progressing  
3-Meets Standard

Kindergarten students will not receive a PE or music grade. Teachers will only record attendance in FOCUS, therefore, parents of KG students will not need a FOCUS account. Teachers will be responsible for keeping parents informed of the progress of their students.

- In grade 1, the grading code will be as follows:
  - Language Arts - Numerical Grade
  - Math - Numerical Grade
  - All other subjects: E-Excellent, S-Satisfactory, N-Needs Improvement,
  - U-Unsatisfactory

- In grades 2-5, numerical grades will be used in all subjects except as follows:
  - Music and Physical Education (E, S, N, U code)

**2. Grade Range for Students 1-12**

The school **must** conform to the grading scale mandated in **FS 1003.437**, which is as follows:

Percentage	Grade	Value	Definition
90-100	A	4	Outstanding Progress
80-89	B	3	Above Average Progress
70-79	C	2	Average Progress
60-69	D	1	Lowest Acceptable Progress
0-59	F	0	Failure
	I	0	Incomplete

**3. Grade Determination**

Each grading period, when a numerical grade is given, the average grade in each subject shall be derived as follows:

- Minimum of 13 recorded grades in each grading period;
- At least nine of the thirteen should be daily grades;
- At least four of the thirteen should be derived from tests, reports, notebooks, book reports, projects and special assignments.
- The daily grade average will count as 1/3 of the final grade;
- The average of the tests, reports, notebooks, book reports, projects, and special assignments shall count as 2/3 of the final grade.

**4. Transfer of Grades**

It is the policy of the Calhoun County School Board to accept transfer credit from state recognized private or other public schools based upon the official transcript authenticated by the proper school authority. If the grading scale of the sending school is equivalent to Calhoun County Schools' grading scale, the numeric grade will be recorded. If the grading scale of the sending school is different, then the alpha grade (A, B, C, D, & F) will be the one recorded by the Calhoun County Schools.

When a student transfers in during a grading period, his or her average grade from the sending school should be calculated with what he or she earns while at the receiving school as a weighted grade. For example: if a student transfers in after 3 weeks with an 80 and earns a 60 for the remaining 6 weeks, one would multiply 3 X 80 = 240, 6 X 60 = 360, (360+240) divided by 9 = 66.666 = 67. The final grade at the end of the grading period would need to be an override and it would also need to be communicated with parents that what they view on FOCUS is not the most accurate average because of the transfer grade needing to be averaged in.

Elementary P.E. and Music grades, high school AVID and peer counseling grades, will be determined by the student's participation and conduct and do not require the minimum 13 recorded grades in each grading period.

## 5. Explanation of Daily Grades

Examples of daily grades are routine homework assignments both written and/or reading assignments, daily papers done in class, participation when discussions are held in class or when a question and answer session is taking place, evidence of diligent study when reading assignments are made in a class, or a brief daily test.

When deemed necessary, teachers should keep samples of daily work in order to document the quality of work being done and the daily grades being given. **At least one daily grade will be recorded each week of the grading period to reflect that week's work.**

## 6. Procedures for Make-Up Work

When a student is absent from school and wishes to make up a test or work missed, the student must contact the teacher upon returning to school unless the teacher is absent, in which case each day of the teacher's absence would extend the time allowed for a student to request make-up work. Make-up work must be done within 5 school days or extended with administrator approval.

If a student has been given advance notice of a test or assignment the student must take the test and hand in the assignments on the day of his/her return to school.

Cases involving extenuating circumstances may be appealed to the school administrator within five days of the absence.

## 7. Semester & Final Grades

The semester average grade shall be determined by averaging each grading period. **Each grading period will be 50%.** When a final grade is given for a subject at the end of the school year such grades shall be derived by averaging the semester grades. Semester exams will no longer be given.

At the teacher's discretion, extra credit points may be earned by a student during grading period in a subject. From 1 - 3 points may be earned by each student for an assigned project, report or other special assignment which is approved by the teacher in advance, provided the assignment relates to appropriate classroom studies. Special assignments must be above and beyond any other classroom assignments made during the nine weeks grading period. Extra points are to be added to the average grade for the grading period.

## 8. Reporting Student Academic Progress

The progress of students toward achieving state and district requirements for proficiency in Reading, Writing, and Mathematics shall be reported through the report card to each student and their parents or guardian each reporting period. For students in grades 1-12, writing composition, spelling and grammar are a part of the Language Arts or English grade.

The report card must clearly depict on each grading period:

- The student's academic performance in each class or course, in grades 1-12, must be based upon written papers, class participation, tests, and other academic performance criteria as determined by the teacher;
- The student's conduct and behavior;
- The student's attendance, including absences and tardiness;
- Instructional level--above grade level instruction, on grade level instruction, or below grade level instruction.

**9. Class Records and Grade Books**

The grade book is the teacher's official record of each student's work and class attendance. Grade books should be kept up-to-date, coincide with computer attendance and grades, and be available upon request from the principal. Class attendance will be marked using the symbols shown below for each absence or tardy. Grade books are turned into the office at the end of the year with the teacher's name and the year clearly marked on the cover.

<u>Type of Absence</u>	<u>Code</u>
Unexcused Absence	5
Excused Absence	1
Out-of-School Suspension	4
Out-of-Class/School Function	2
Tardy	8
Excused/Administratively	9
Doctor or Health Note/Prior Approval	3
Out of Class for Detention	D
In-School Suspension	C

**10. Reporting to Parents Regarding Grades**

- a. Student progress reports will be available online for parents and updated weekly.
- b. Parents will be notified by the middle of each grading period if their child is having difficulty or may fail the course. Parents of students in grades 1-12 will be notified in writing by the end of the first semester (or the middle of the semester for semester courses) if the student is having difficulty and may fail the course or the grade. After this date, each student must continue to satisfactorily complete assignments to assure promotion or course completion.
- c. Parents of students in grades K-5 will be notified in writing at the end of the school year if, on recommendation of the staffing committee the student is recommended for retention or required to attend summer school, if available, as a condition for promotion or for remediation.

**OUT-OF-FIELD TEACHERS**

Any parent whose child is being taught by a teacher teaching out-of-field shall be notified in writing.

**ANNUAL REPORTING**

District School Board will annually publish in local newspaper and on the district website the following information on the prior school year:

- Provisions of the law relating to public school student progression and the district school board's policies and procedures on student retention and promotion
- By grade, the number/percentage of all students in Grades 3-10 performing at levels 1 and 2 on the statewide, standardized English Language Arts assessment
- By grade, the number/percentage of all students retained in KG through grade 10
- Information on the total number of students who were promoted for good cause, by each category of good cause.
- Any revisions to the district school board's policy on retention/promotion from the prior year.

## **ACADEMICALLY CHALLENGING CURRICULUM TO ENHANCE LEARNING (ACCEL)**

Academically Challenging Curriculum to Enhance Learning (ACCEL) options provide for accelerated instruction to eligible public school students grades K-12.

ACCEL options may include:

- Whole grade and midyear promotion
- Subject acceleration
- Virtual instruction in higher grade level subjects
- Credit Acceleration Programs

Students eligibility requirements include:

- Above average performance on statewide, standardized assessments (Level 4 or 5)
- Grade point average of 3.5 or higher in core courses
- Attendance and conduct records review
- Recommendation from the student's principal or assistant principal
- Approval of a district administrator

At the parent/guardian's request, a review committee of school and district administrators will determine ACCEL eligibility. Any student who meets eligibility criteria and participates in an ACCEL option will do so with a performance contract executed by the parent/guardian, the student, and the school principal/designee.

## **VIRTUAL EDUCATION**

Calhoun County School District will provide eligible students the option of participating in a virtual instruction program. The school district virtual instruction program shall provide the following:

- Full-time virtual instruction for students enrolled in kindergarten through grades 12
- Part-time virtual instruction for students in Kindergarten through 12 courses that are measured by an evaluation method developed by DOE
- Full-time or part-time virtual instruction for students who are enrolled in dropout prevention and academic intervention programs, DJJ education programs, core-curricula courses to meet class size requirements, or community colleges

Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2011-2012 school year, at least one course within the 24 credits required for graduation must be completed through online learning. The school district may not require a student to take the online course outside of the school day or in addition to a student's courses for a given semester. A student who is enrolled in a full-time or part-time virtual instruction program meets this requirement. Students taking a high school online course in grades 6-8 and students enrolled full or part-time in virtual programs meet this requirement. In addition, this requirement does not apply to a student who has an individual educational plan which indicates that an online course would be inappropriate or a student who is enrolled in a Florida high school and has less than 1 academic year remaining in high school.

Calhoun County School Virtual Instruction Program will be offered by the following providers:

- K12, Inc. will provide instruction for students in grades K-12
- Florida Virtual School will provide instruction for students in grades K-12
- Calhoun County Virtual School will provide instruction for students in grades 6-12

Students who are attending Calhoun County Virtual Instruction Program may only enter or withdraw from a course at the beginning or end of a semester. Students will have 5 days into the semester to enter or withdraw from a course. Students attending Calhoun County Virtual Instruction Program must sign an agreement when entering the program acknowledging that students will not be allowed to return to a Calhoun County brick and mortar school until the beginning of the next semester. Public school students

receiving part-time instruction through virtual instruction in courses requiring statewide end-of-course assessments must take all required statewide end-of-course assessments. All statewide assessments must be taken within the school district which the student resides.

To participate in interscholastic extracurricular activities, a student in the Calhoun County Virtual Instruction Program student must

- meet specific academic and conduct requirements during the period of participation
- meet any additional requirements
- meet the same residency requirements as other students in the school at which he or she participates
- meet the same standards of acceptance, behavior, and performance as required of other students in extracurricular activities
- must register his or her intent to participate in interscholastic activities with the school before the beginning date of the season for the activity in which he or she wishes to participate

A student may participate in virtual instruction in the school district in which he or she resides if:

- The student has spent the prior school year in attendance at a public school in this state and was enrolled and reported by a public school district for funding during the preceding October and February for purposes of the FEP surveys
- The student is a dependent child of a member of the United States Armed Forces who was transferred within the last 12 months to this state from another state or from a foreign country pursuant to the parent's permanent change of station orders
- The student was enrolled during the prior school year in a virtual instruction program under s. 1002.45, the K-8 Virtual School Program under s. 1002.415, or a full-time FLVS program under s. 1002.87 (8)(a)
- The student has a sibling who is currently enrolled in a virtual instruction program and the sibling was enrolled in that program at the end of the prior school year
- The student is eligible to enter kindergarten or first grade
- The student is eligible to enter grades 2 through 5 and is enrolled full-time in a school district instructional program, virtual charter school, or Florida Virtual School

Students who graduate from Calhoun County Virtual School have the following options:

- walk in graduation exercises through the Calhoun Alternative Education Program;
- receive their diploma and forego graduation exercise

**Driver's Education** will only be offered through the virtual school program during the school year. Students may use the virtual school program to complete this course for one-half credit.

**Academic Integrity** Calhoun County Virtual Instruction Program expects a full commitment to academic integrity from each student. Academic Integrity means:

- Your work on each assignment will be completely your own.
- Your collaboration with another classmate on any assignment will be pre-approved by your instructor.
- You will not practice plagiarism in any form.
- You will not allow others to copy your work.
- You will not misuse content from the Internet.

**\*It is unlawful for any person to knowingly and willfully take an online course or examination on behalf of another person for compensation. Any person who violates this subsection commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.**

## HOME EDUCATION

Home Education is a parent-directed educational option that satisfies the requirement for regular school attendance. Parents have the freedom to determine their child's educational path and the plan for reaching their goals. Students have the opportunity to explore and learn at their own pace, in any location or at any time. Home education students are able to enter institutions of higher learning and are eligible to participate in the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program.

To enroll in a home education program, a parent/guardian must notify the Superintendent of Schools, in writing, of the intent to provide home education for the student. A copy of the notification of intent to provide home education must be taken to the brick and mortar school in which the student is enrolled in order for the student to be withdrawn.

A student entering a Calhoun County school for the first time, or transferring, from a home education program shall provide evidence of the immunization and medical requirement stated in School board policies. A student entering initially or reentering from a home education program shall provide results of portfolio assessment and/or achievement tests for each year that the student was enrolled in the home education program.

Validation of credits shall be based upon performance in classes at the receiving school. Transferring students shall be placed at the appropriate sequential course level and will be awarded credit for previous courses if they earn a "C" at the end of the first grade period.

Third, fourth, or fifth grade students transferring from a private school or home education program who did not take the statewide, standardized English Language Arts assessment at grade 3 or grade 4 may be assessed using the SAT 10 prior to grade placement to determine their reading proficiency. If testing reveals that the student is not proficient in reading, he/she may be placed at a lower grade level.

Eligible home education students may participate in dual enrollment, early admission, credit by examination and Florida Virtual School programs. Credit earned by home education students through dual enrollment shall apply toward the completion of a home education program.

If a student transfers into a Calhoun County high school from a home education program, and that student's transcript shows mathematics credit in a course that requires passage of a statewide, standardized assessment in order to earn a standard high school diploma, the student must pass the assessment unless the student earned a comparative score, passed a statewide assessment in that subject administered by the transferring entity, or passed the statewide assessment the transferring entity uses to satisfy the requirements of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

If a student's transcript shows a credit in high school reading or English language Arts II or III, the student must take and pass FSA English Language Arts/FCAT Reading Grade 10 assessment or earn a concordant score on the SAT or ACT as specified by state board rule. (1003.4282 (8))

Florida students who receive instruction at home and are registered appropriately with their district office as Home Education Program students are eligible to participate in statewide assessments. If parents or guardians have identified an EOC assessment as a selected measure of their child's annual progress, Home Education Program students may participate in the EOC assessment administration, as directed by the district assessment coordinator.

An individual home education student is eligible to participate at the public school in interscholastic extracurricular activities to which the student would be assigned according to district school board attendance area policies, provided the following conditions are met:

1. The home education student must meet the requirements of the home education program.
2. During the period of participation at a school, the home education student must demonstrate educational progress in all subjects taken in the home education program.
3. The home education student must meet the same residency requirements as other students in

- the school at which he or she participates.
4. The home education student must meet the same standards of acceptance, behavior, and performance as required of other students in extracurricular activities.
  5. The student must register with the school his or her intent to participate in interscholastic extracurricular activities as a representative of the school before the beginning date of the season for the activity in which he or she wishes to participate. A home education student must be able to participate in curricular activities if that is a requirement for an extracurricular activity.
  6. The student who transfers from a home education program to a public school before or during the first grading period of the school year is academically eligible to participate in interscholastic extracurricular activities during the first grading period provided the student has a successful evaluation from the previous school year.
  7. Any public school or private school student who has been unable to maintain academic eligibility for participation in interscholastic extracurricular activities is ineligible to participate in such activities as a home education student until the student has successfully complete one grading period in home education.

#### **INTERSTATE COMPACT ON EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY FOR MILITARY CHILDREN (ICEOMC) (F.S. 1000.36)**

Florida is a participating state in the ICEOMC, therefore, Calhoun District Schools adhere as much as possible to the guidelines of the compact. The purpose of the compact is to remove barriers to educational success imposed on children of military families because of frequent moves and deployment of their parents by:

- Facilitating timely enrollment;
- Facilitating student placement;
- Facilitating qualification and eligibility for enrollment in educational programs, extracurricular athletics and social activities;
- facilitating on-time graduation;
- Providing for adoption and enforcement of administrative rules and implementing the compact;
- Providing for the uniform collection and sharing of information between states;
- Promoting coordination between the compact and other compacts affecting military children;
- Promoting flexibility and cooperation between the educational system, parents, and students.

#### **1. Applicability**

The compact applies to active duty armed forces personnel, personnel or veterans who are medically discharged or retired for a period of one year, and personnel who die on active duty or as a result of injuries sustained on active duty for a period of one year after death. Local education agencies (LEA) must abide by compact terms. The terms of the compact are binding only on member states.

#### **2. Records, Enrollment, and Eligibility**

The compact requires a student's former school to issue temporary transcripts in the event that it cannot furnish official transcripts timely. Pending receipt of official transcripts, the student's receiving school must accept the temporary transcripts for enrollment and placement purposes. Compact states must give the students 30 days to obtain required immunizations. Students must be allowed to continue their enrollment at the grade level they were enrolled in at the former school. Likewise, a student who has completed a grade level in the former state must be allowed to enroll in the next highest grade level in the receiving state, regardless of age. The compact requires an LEA to honor temporary guardianships executed to enroll the child in school due to a student's parent being deployed out of state or country. Further, it prohibits an LEA from charging tuition to students who are placed in the care of a person who lives outside of the LEA's jurisdiction. Such students must be allowed to remain at the original school. LEAs must also allow a transitioning military child to participate in extracurricular activities, regardless of when the child enrolled in the school.



**3. Placement and Attendance**

The compact provides that a transferring student must be allowed to continue in the academic program in which the student was enrolled at his or her former school, including, but not limited to, English as a second language, exceptional student education, gifted, honors, International Baccalaureate, Advanced Placement, and career and technical courses. Program placement must occur based upon prior participation or educational assessments conducted at the student’s former school.

When a parent who has been deployed out of the state or country is home on leave, an LEA must allow the student additional excused absences to visit with the parent.

**4. Graduation**

To enable transitioning military students to graduate from high school on time, the compact requires states and LEAs to waive courses required for graduation if similar coursework was previously completed or provide alternative means for such students to satisfy coursework requirements. States must also accept exit exams, end-of-course exams, or other testing required for graduation in the student’s former state. For military students who transfer before or during their senior year and who are not eligible to graduate from the receiving state, the current and former LEAs must arrange for the student to receive a diploma from the student’s form LEA.

**ASSISTANCE TO TRANSITIONING STUDENTS FROM MILITARY FAMILIES**

Dependent children of active duty military personnel who otherwise meet the eligibility criteria for special academic programs offered through public schools shall be given first preference for admission to such programs even if the program is being offered through a public school other than the school to which the student would generally be assigned. If such a program is offered through a public school other than the school to which the student would generally be assigned, the parent or guardian of the student must assume responsibility for transporting the student to that school. For purposes of this subsection, special academic programs include magnet schools, advanced studies programs, Advanced Placement, dual enrollment, Advanced International Certificate of Education, and International Baccalaureate.

## ELEMENTARY PROGRAMS-GRADES PreK-5

### VOLUNTARY PRE-KINDERGARTEN THROUGH FIRST GRADE

#### 1. Voluntary Pre-K Entry

A child must be four years old by September 1 of the current school year in order to participate in the VPK Program. The Early Learning Coalition of Northwest Florida will issue a certificate of eligibility for the VPK program. The VPK certificate may be used at a public or private school. **Elementary schools in Calhoun County that offer the VPK program have a limited number of slots available which are on a first come, first serve basis. VPK students may be removed from the program if they have more than 2 unexcused absences per month. Parents must send notes or doctors' excuses when their child is absent. In county students, as well as children of employees, will be given priority for available VPK slots. Any out of county student who is accepted for VPK must complete the out of county enrollment plan. Morning VPK services are provided at no cost to parents/guardians. Extended day VPK services are available for a fee of \$50 per week.**

#### 2. Pre-Kindergarten Handicapped Entry

Child Find screenings are held routinely in Calhoun County to help identify children with a delay or disability who may be eligible for the PK Handicapped program. Children must be evaluated and determined eligible by a staffing/eligibility team in order to attend the PK Handicapped program in Calhoun County.

#### 3. Kindergarten Entry

Children who have attained the age of five years on or before September 1 of the school year are eligible for admission to public kindergarten during that school year. Before admitting a child to kindergarten, the principal shall require evidence that the child has attained the lawful age for admittance.

A statewide kindergarten screening must be administered to each kindergarten student in the school district within the first 30 days of each school year. The statewide kindergarten screening assesses the readiness of each student for kindergarten based upon the performance standards adopted by the DOE under **s. 1002.67(1), F.S.**, for the Voluntary Prekindergarten Program.

#### 4. First Grade Entry

Any child who has attained the age of six years on or before September 1 of the school year and who has been enrolled in a public school, or who has attained the age of six years on or before September 1 and has satisfactorily completed the requirements for kindergarten in a private school from which the district school board accepts transfer of academic credit, or who otherwise meets the criteria for admission or transfer in a manner similar or applicable to other grades, shall progress to first grade.

#### 5. Kindergarten and First Grade Out-of-State Transfers

Any student who transfers from an out-of-state public school and who does not meet regular age requirements for admission to Florida public schools shall be admitted upon presentation of required data.

Any student who transfers from an out-of-state nonpublic school and who does not meet regular age requirements for admission to Florida public schools may be admitted if the student meets age requirements for public schools within the state from which he or she is transferring, and if the transfer of the student's academic credit is acceptable under rules of the school board. Prior to admission, the parent or guardian must also provide required data.

In order to be admitted to Florida schools, such a student transferring from an out-of-state school must provide the following data:

- Official documentation that the parent(s) or guardian(s) was a legal resident(s) of the state in which the child was previously enrolled in school;
- An official letter or transcript from proper school authority which shows record of attendance, academic information, and grade placement of the student;
- Evidence of immunization against communicable diseases as required in **s. 1003.22, F.S.**;
- Evidence of date of birth in accordance with **s. 1003.21, F.S.**; and
- Evidence of a medical examination completed within the last twelve (12) months in accordance with **s. 1003.22, F.S.**

### **ELEMENTARY CURRICULUM PROVISIONS**

The curriculum in the elementary schools is determined by the laws of the State of Florida, the accreditation standards of AdvancED, and the needs of students as determined by curriculum studies and surveys, and continuous evaluation of the effectiveness of the curriculum in meeting the needs of all students.

The district school board shall provide 150 minutes of physical education each week for students in grades Kindergarten through grade 5. Students in grade 6 who are enrolled in a school that contains one or more elementary grades so that on any day during which physical education instruction is conducted there are at least 30 consecutive minutes per day.

Students in grades K-8 are eligible to waive the physical education requirement if they meet any of the following criteria:

- The student is enrolled or required to enroll in a remedial course.
- The student's parent indicates in writing to the school that;
  - The parent requests that the student enroll in another course from among those courses offered as options by the school district; or
  - The student is participating in physical activities outside the school day, which are equal to or in excess of the mandated requirement.

### **ASSESSMENT & REMEDIATION**

Each student must participate in the statewide standardized assessment program. Each student who does not meet specific levels of performance on the required assessments or who score below Level 3 on statewide, standardized English Language Arts or Mathematics assessment must be provided with additional diagnostic assessments to determine the nature of the student's difficulty, the areas of academic need, and strategies for appropriate intervention and instruction.

Calhoun County has a school wide system of progress monitoring for all students. Progress monitoring of students is designed to assist the student or the school in meeting state and district expectations for proficiency. If the student has been identified as having a deficiency in reading, the K-12 comprehensive reading plan shall include instructional and support services to be provided to meet the desired levels of performance. Upon subsequent evaluation, if the documented deficiency has not been remediated, the student may be retained. Each student who does not meet the minimum performance expectations for the statewide assessments in reading, writing, science, social studies, and mathematics must continue to be provided with remedial or supplemental instruction until the expectations are met.

## READING DEFICIENCY & PARENTAL NOTIFICATION

Any student who exhibits a substantial deficiency in reading, based upon locally determined or statewide assessments, conducted in KG through third grade or through teacher observations, must be given intensive reading instruction immediately following the identification of the reading deficiency. The student's reading proficiency must be monitored and the intensive instruction must continue until the student demonstrates grade level proficiency in a manner determined by the district, which may include achieving a Level 3 on the statewide, standardized English Language Arts assessment.

**To be promoted to grade 4, a student must score a Level 2 or higher on the statewide, standardized English Language Arts assessment required under s. 1008.22 for grade 3.**

**If a student's reading deficiency is not remediated by the end of grade 3, as demonstrating by scoring Level 2 or higher on the statewide standardized assessment, the student must be retained, unless exempt from mandatory retention for good cause.**

The parent of any student who exhibits a substantial deficiency in reading, must be notified in writing of the following:

1. That his or her child has been identified as having a substantial deficiency in reading.
2. A description of the current services that are provided to the child.
3. A description of proposed supplemental instructional services and supports that will be provided to the child that are designed to remediate the identified area of reading deficiency.
4. That if the child's reading deficiency is not remediated by the end of grade 3, the child must be retained unless he or she is exempt from mandatory retention for good cause.
5. Strategies for parents to use in helping their child succeed in reading proficiency.
6. That the statewide, standardized English Language Arts assessment is not the sole determiner of promotion and that additional evaluations, portfolio reviews, and assessments are available to the child to assist parents and the school district in knowing when a child is reading at or above grade level and reading for grade promotion.
7. The district's specific criteria and policies for a portfolio and the evidence required for a student to demonstrate mastery of Florida's academic standards for English Language Arts. ***Calhoun County keeps a portfolio on all 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students.***
8. The district's specific criteria and policies for midyear promotion. Midyear promotion means promotion of a retained student at any time during the year of retention once the student has demonstrated ability to read at grade level.

## LANGUAGE ARTS GRADES

Reading is no longer a standalone subject in elementary school. The language arts grade will include reading, writing, spelling and grammar. Students in language arts will have a minimum of 13 grades in each grading period. At least 4 of the 13 should be derived from tests, reports, notebooks, book reports, projects, and special assignments. In grades, 1-5, three test grades will come from weekly assessments (cold reads). **One test grade must come from a writing assignment.** Selection tests and spelling tests will count as daily grades.

## PROMOTION/RETENTION

Students must demonstrate satisfactory performance of the **Florida Standards/Next Generation Sunshine State Standards** in the district's core curriculum for reading, math, science, social and language arts.

To be promoted to the next instructional level the following requirements must be met:

- Students in grades 1-5 must receive a grade "D" or above on the report card in language arts
- Students in grades 1-5 must receive a grade "D" or above on the report card in mathematics.
- Students in grades 4-5 must receive a grade "D" or above on the report card in science.

To be promoted from Kindergarten to the next instructional level, the following requirements must be met:

- Earn Level 3 on 12 out of 16 Mathematics Standards
- Earn Level 3 on 12 out of 16 Reading/Writing/Language Arts Standards
- Know 100% of the following: Letter Recognition (Upper and Lowercase), Letter Sounds and Short Vowel Sounds, Long Vowel Sounds, and Number Recognition
- Teacher judgment will always be considered

Students retained in grade 3 may be eligible for mid-year promotion if they meet the requirements of the Student Progression Plan.

### **GOOD CAUSE EXEMPTIONS FOR GRADE 3 READING**

The district school board may only exempt students from mandatory retention, as provided in **F.S. 1008.25(6)(b)**, for good cause. A student who is promoted to grade 4 with a good cause exemption shall be provided intensive reading instruction and intervention that include specialized diagnostic information and specific reading strategies to meet the needs of each student so promoted. The school district shall assist schools and teachers with the implementation of reading strategies for students promoted with a good cause exemption which research has shown to be successful in improving reading among students who have reading difficulties. Good cause exemptions shall be limited to the following:

1. Limited English proficient students who have had less than 2 years of instruction in an English for Speakers of Other Languages program based on the initial date of entry into a school in the United States.
2. Students with disabilities whose IEP indicates that participation in the statewide assessment program is not appropriate, consistent with the requirements of State Board of Education rule.
3. Students who demonstrate an acceptable level of performance on an alternative standardized reading or English Language Arts assessment approved by the State Board of Education.
4. Students who demonstrate, through a student portfolio, that he or she is performing at least at Level 2 on statewide, standardized English Language Arts assessment.
5. Students with disabilities who take the statewide, standardized English Language Arts assessment and who have an IEP or a Section 504 plan that reflects that the student has received intensive instruction in reading and English Language Arts for more than 2 years but still demonstrates a deficiency in reading and was previously retained grade KG, grade 1, grade 2, or grade 3.
6. Students who have received intensive reading intervention for 2 or more years but still demonstrate a deficiency in reading and who were previously retained in grade KG, grade 1, grade 2, or grade 3 for a total of 2 years. **A student may not be retained more than once in grade 3.**
7. Students who have received intensive remediation in reading or English Language Arts for 2 or more years but still demonstrate a deficiency and who were previously retained in KG, grade 1, grade 2, or grade 3 for a total of 2 years. Intensive instruction for students so promoted must include an altered instructional day that includes specialized diagnostic information and specific reading strategies for each student. The district school board shall assist schools and teachers to implement reading strategies that research has shown to be successful in improving reading among low performing readers.

Requests for Good Cause Exemptions for students from the mandatory retention requirement shall be made consistent with the following:

- Documentation shall be submitted from the student's teacher to the school principal that indicates that the promotion of the student is appropriate and based on student's academic record;
- The school principal shall review and discuss with the teacher and make the determination as to whether the student should be promoted or retained;
- If the school principal determines that the student should be promoted, the school principal shall make such recommendation in writing to the district school superintendent;
- The district school superintendent shall accept or reject the school principal's recommendation in writing.

## REMEDIATION

1. Students who score at Achievement Level I on the statewide, standardized ELA and mathematics assessments may be required to receive remediation or may be retained.
2. Upon subsequent evaluation, if the documented deficiency has not been remediated in accordance with the Progress Monitoring Plan, the student may be retained. Each student who does not meet the minimum performance expectations defined by the Student Progression Plan for statewide and district assessment tests in reading, writing, science, and mathematics must continue to be provided with remedial or supplemental instruction until the expectations are met or the student graduates from high school or is not subject to compulsory school attendance.

The Department of Education has determined that the following options for remediation and retention are available:

- remediate before the beginning of the next school year and promote;
- promote and remediate during the following year with more intensive intervention and remediation strategies specified; or
- retain and remediate in a different program

## SUCCESSFUL PROGRESSION FOR RETAINED THIRD GRADE STUDENTS F.S. 1008.25(7)

Third grade students who are retained must be provided intensive interventions in reading to ameliorate the student's specific reading deficiency, as identified by a valid and reliable diagnostic assessment. This intensive intervention must include:

- Effective instructional strategies;
- Participation in the district's summer reading camp; and
- Appropriate teaching methodologies necessary to assist those students in becoming successful readers, able to read at or above grade level, and ready for promotion to the next grade.

1. Retained third grade students must be provided with intensive instructional services and supports to remediate the identified areas of reading deficiency, including participation in the school district's summer reading camp; a minimum of 90 minutes of daily, uninterrupted, scientifically research-based reading instruction which includes phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension and other strategies prescribed by the school district, which may include, but are not limited to:
  - Integration of science and social studies content within the 90 minute block.
  - Small group instruction.
  - Reduced teacher-student ratios.
  - More frequent progress monitoring.
  - Tutoring or mentoring.
  - Transition classes containing 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade students.
  - Extended school day, week or year.
2. Provide written notification to the parent of a student who is retained that his or her child has not met the proficiency level required for promotion and the reasons the child is not eligible for a good cause exemption. The notification must include a description of proposed interventions and supports that will be provided to the child to remediate the identified areas of reading deficiency.
3. The district will implement a policy for the mid-year promotion of a student retained in third grade who can demonstrate that he or she is a successful and independent reader and performing at or above grade level in reading and English Language Arts. Tools that may be used in reevaluating a student retained may include subsequent assessments, alternative assessments, and portfolio reviews, in accordance with rules

of the State Board of Education. Students promoted during the school year after November 1 must demonstrate proficiency levels in reading equivalent to the level necessary for the beginning of grade 4. The rules that are adopted by the State Board of Education must include standards that provide a reasonable expectation that the student's progress is sufficient to master appropriate grade 4 level reading skills.

4. Provide students who are retained with a highly effective teacher as determined by teacher's performance evaluation.
5. Establish, when applicable, an Intensive Acceleration Class for retained grade 3 students who subsequently score Level 1 on the required statewide standardized assessment. The focus of the intensive acceleration class shall be to increase a child's reading and English Language Arts skill level at least two grade levels in one school year. The intensive acceleration class shall:
  - Be provided to a student in Grade 3 who scores Level 1 on the statewide, standardized English Language Arts assessment and who was retained in Grade 3 the prior year because of scoring at Level 1
  - Have a reduced teacher-student ratio;
  - Provide uninterrupted reading instruction for the majority of student contact time each day and incorporate opportunities to master the grade 4 NGSSS in other core subject areas;
  - Use a reading program that is scientifically research-based and has proven results in accelerating student reading achievement within the same school year;
  - Provide intensive language and vocabulary instruction using a scientifically research-based program, including the use of a speech-language therapist.

## **PROGRESSION FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

### **1. Promotion**

The Individual Education Plan (IEP) will specify the type of progression plan a student will follow based upon the individual needs of the student. A student with a disability must meet the same district proficiency levels required for a non-disabled student unless the IEP team determined that the student is:

- One for whom the FL Standards/Next Generation Sunshine State Standards are not appropriate standards, and
- The student meets the exception criteria as set forth in the District Special Programs and Procedures Document for FL Assessments/FCAT, end of course exam, and/or other standardized assessments.

Appropriate accommodations for the state and district-wide assessments are determined by the IEP team as allowed by Florida's Statewide Testing Program, end of course exam, and other required standardized tests administered by the district. (Accommodations are designed to allow students with disabilities access to the general curriculum as well as state and district assessments without changing the content or the intended outcomes of the course or assessment.)

### **2. Retention**

If a student with a disability does not score a Level 2 or higher on the grade 3 FSA English Language Arts assessment, the student must be retained, unless good cause exemptions are met.

For students with disabilities in grades other than those in grade 3, retention should be based upon the same district proficiency levels unless the exemption criteria set forth in the previous section is met or IEP teams determine otherwise.

## GENERAL PROVISIONS-GRADES 6-12

The school district shall provide all courses required for middle grades promotion, high school graduation, and appropriate instruction designed to ensure that students meet Florida Standards/Next Generation Sunshine State Standards in the following areas: language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, foreign languages, health and physical education, and the arts.

### CURRICULUM FRAMEWORKS/COURSE CODE DESCRIPTIONS

No school shall offer a course for credit in grades 6 - 12 unless it appears in the **Course Code Directory** qualifying the course for state funding. This course code number shall be recorded in the Student's Permanent Records.

Each course offered in grades 6 - 12 in Calhoun County shall adhere to the state adopted Course Code Descriptions and Curriculum Frameworks with **Florida Standards/Next Generation Sunshine State Standards** correlated to the course.

### EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES PARTICIPATION

Interscholastic extracurricular student activities are an important complement to the academic curriculum. Participation in a comprehensive extracurricular and academic program contributes to student development of the social and intellectual skills necessary to become a well-rounded adult. The term "extracurricular" means any school-authorized or education-related activity occurring during or outside the regular instructional school day.

To be eligible to participate in interscholastic extracurricular student activities, a student must:

1. Maintain a grade point average of 2.0 or above on a 4.0 scale, or its equivalent, in the previous semester or a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or above on a 4.0 scale, or its equivalent.
2. Execute and fulfill the requirements of an academic performance contract between the student, the district school board, the appropriate governing association, and the student's parents, if the student's cumulative grade point average falls below 2.0 or its equivalent, on a 4.0 scale. At a minimum, the contract must require that the student attend summer school, or its graded equivalent, between grades 9 and 10 or grades 10 and 11, as necessary.
3. Have a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or above on a 4.0 scale, or its equivalent in the courses required during her or his junior or senior year.
4. Maintain satisfactory conduct, including adherence to appropriate dress and other codes of student conduct policies. If a student is convicted of, or is found to have committed a felony or a delinquent act that would have been a felony if committed by an adult, regardless of whether adjudication is withheld, the student's participation in interscholastic extracurricular activities is contingent upon established and published district school board policy.

### Private School Students Participating in Public School Sports

The Florida High School Athletic Association, in cooperation with each district school board, shall facilitate a program in which a middle school or high school student who attends a private school shall be eligible to participate in an interscholastic or intrascholastic sport at a public high school, a public middle school, or a 6-12 public school that is zoned for the physical address to which the student resides if:

1. The private school in which the student is enrolled is not a member of the FHSAA and does not offer an interscholastic or intrascholastic athletic program.
2. The private school student meets the guidelines for the conduct of the program established by the FHSAA's board of directors and the district school board.



**DROPOUT PREVENTION**

CARE is the Calhoun County School District's Dropout Prevention Discipline Program (**CARE**) for Grades 6-12. Additional district-approved dropout prevention programs which differ from regular educational programs and strategies may be implemented for students who, through screening procedures, are determined to be unmotivated, unsuccessful, and/or disruptive and are properly staffed into the program. School sites, eligibility criteria, and grade placement and progression will be specified at the schools where implemented.

**REMEDIAL INSTRUCTION**

A student who has a deficiency in reading and/or math may be enrolled in an intensive remedial course the following year or be placed in a content area course that includes remediation of skills not acquired by the student.

**CREDIT RECOVERY**

Students enrolled in credit recovery must have previously attempted the corresponding course (and/or End of course assessment) since the course requirements for the Credit Recovery course are exactly the same as the previously attempted corresponding course. Credit Recovery courses are not bound by a minimum number of hours of instruction since the student would have previously attempted successful completion of the corresponding course. Credit recovery courses will be delivered through an on-line platform. Credit Recovery courses can only be used for credit recovery, grade forgiveness, or remediation for students needing to prepare for an End-of-Course assessment retake.

**FORGIVENESS POLICY**

Forgiveness policies for required courses shall be limited to replacing a grade of "D" or "F" with a grade of "C" or higher earned subsequently in the same or comparable course.

Forgiveness policies for elective courses shall be limited to replacing a grade of "D" or "F" with a grade of "C" or higher earned subsequently in another course.

Students in middle grades who take any high school course for high school credit and earns a grade of "C," "D," or "F" must be allowed to replace the grade with a grade of "C" or higher earned subsequently in the same of comparable course.

In all cases of grade forgiveness, only the new grade shall be used in the calculation of the student's grade point average. Any course grade not replaced according to a district school board forgiveness policy shall be included in the calculation of the cumulative grade point average required for graduation. (1003.4282 (6))

The school district will keep a record of courses taken and a record of achievement, such as grades, unit, or certification of competence. Student records cannot be altered at any time unless it has been determined that the information is inaccurate or in violation of the privacy or other rights of the student. All courses and grades must be included on the student's transcript. The authority for the school board to adopt a forgiveness policy does not provide the authority to alter a student's record to delete the forgiven course and grade. The forgiveness policy authorization is for the express purpose of assisting students in meeting the requirements necessary to graduate from high school, including a minimum grade point average and successful completion of academic credit or curriculum requirements. The school board does not have the authority to purge that student's record to delete the first grade. All forgiven courses and grades must be included on a student's transcript as an accurate reflection of the student's record of achievement.

## Middle School Programs-Grades 6-8

A student who is promoted to the sixth grade must have met all requirements set forth in the K - 5 grades for promotion to sixth grade. In grades 6 – 8, each student shall receive instruction pursuant to **F.S. 1003.42**, and this **Student Progression Plan**.

### MIDDLE GRADES PROMOTION GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

<b>Students in Grade 6-8 must successfully complete with a grade of 60 or higher</b>		
<b>English/Language Arts</b>	3 middle school or higher courses These courses must emphasize literature, composition, and technical text.	
<b>Mathematics</b>	3 middle grades or higher courses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Must offer at least one high school level math course for which students may earn for high school credit</li> <li>▪ For each year in which a student scores at Level 1 or Level 2 on Florida Standards Assessment Mathematics, the student will receive remediation the following year, which may be integrated into the student's required mathematics course</li> </ul>	<p>Successful completion of a high school level Algebra 1 or Geometry course is not contingent on a student the EOC assessment.</p> <p>To earn high school credit for Algebra 1, the student</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ must take the Algebra 1 EOC Assessment</li> <li>▪ Pass the course</li> <li>▪ EOC results constitute 30% of final grade</li> </ul> <p>To earn high school credit for Geometry, the student</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ must take the Geometry EOC Assessment</li> <li>▪ Pass the course</li> <li>▪ EOC results constitute 30% of final grade</li> </ul>
<b>Science</b>	3 middle grades or higher courses	<p>Successful completion of a high school level Biology 1 course is not contingent on a student the EOC assessment.</p> <p>To earn high school credit for Biology 1, the student</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ must take the Biology 1 EOC Assessment</li> <li>▪ Pass the course</li> <li>▪ EOC results constitute 30% of final grade</li> </ul>
<b>Social Studies</b>	3 middle grades or higher courses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One of these courses must be at least a one-semester civics education course that a student successfully completes.</li> </ul>	<p>Civics Education Course</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ EOC results constitute 30% of the final course grade.</li> </ul> <p>If a middle grades student who transfers into a FL public school after the beginning of the 2<sup>nd</sup> term of 8<sup>th</sup> grade is not required to meet the Civics education requirement for promotion if the student's transcript documents</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Passage of 3 courses in social studies</li> <li>▪ Or 2 year-long courses in social studies that include coverage of civics education</li> </ul> <p>If this is not the case, the student must be immediately enrolled in Civics, participate in the Civics EOC and the results of the EOC must constitute 30% of the course grade.</p>
<b>Physical Education</b>	One semester of physical education for each year a student is enrolled in grades 6-8	<p>Students may waive PE requirement if they meet the following criteria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enrolled in a remedial course</li> <li>• Student's parents indicated in writing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Request student enroll in another course</li> <li>○ Student is participating in physical activities outside of the school day, which is equal to or in excess of the mandated requirement</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Career Education Planning</b>	1 course completed in 6 <sup>th</sup> , 7 <sup>th</sup> , or 8 <sup>th</sup> grade. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Internet-based</li> <li>• Easy to use</li> <li>• Customizable</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research-based assessments to assist student in determining educational and career options and goals</li> <li>• Emphasis on importance of entrepreneurship skills</li> </ul>
<b>Reading</b>	1 period of reading, in 6 <sup>th</sup> , 7 <sup>th</sup> and 8 <sup>th</sup> grade, in addition to the regularly scheduled language arts course <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students who transfer into the district may be exempt</li> <li>• Students in virtual instruction may be exempt</li> </ul>	For each year in which a student scores at Level 1 or Level 2 on Florida Standards Assessment ELA, the student will receive remediation the following year, which may be integrated into the student's required ELA/Rdg course

Students who transfer into the district may be exempt from some of the above requirements.

Students in Grade 6, 7, or 8 who are not enrolled in schools with a middle grades configuration are subject to the promotion requirements of this section.

The courses offered in grades 6 - 8 will be in conformity with state statutes that relate to Florida's Curriculum Frameworks/Course Code Descriptions adopted by the State Board of Education.

In order to pass a course in grades 6 - 8, a student must earn a grade of 60 or higher as determined by teacher assessment utilizing a combination of any of the following methods:

- Teacher observation
- Classroom Assignments/Lesson Plans
- Individual/group assignments
- Teacher-made Tests
- Comprehensive Examinations
- Progress Tests
- Performance Tasks
- State and District Assessments
- Checklists
- Other Objective Data

Students who do not meet proficiency levels in reading, writing, mathematics, social studies and science as determined by the local school board and the Commissioner of Education, using statewide assessment tests results and district assessments, must be provided with additional diagnostic assessments. The School wide Progress Monitoring Plan will be used to monitor academic growth. Upon subsequent evaluation, if the deficiency is not corrected, the student may be retained. **F.S. 1008.25**

A student in the middle grades who takes any high school course for high school credit and earns a grade of "C", "D", or "F", the district forgiveness policy will allow the replacement of the grade with a grade of "C" or higher, earned subsequently in the same or comparable course.

The school shall specify the required courses of study at each level. A copy of the master schedule will meet this requirement.

Middle grades students enrolled in Algebra 1, Geometry, or Biology 1 must take the statewide, standardized EOC assessment for those courses and shall not take the corresponding subject and grade-level statewide, standardized assessment.

### **CAREER AND EDUCATION PLANNING**

One course in career and education planning will be completed in 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, or 8<sup>th</sup> grade. The course may be taught by any member of the instructional staff. At a minimum, the course must be Internet-based, easy to use, and customizable to each student and include research-based assessments to assist students in determining educational and career options and goals. In addition, the course must result in a completed personalized academic and career plan for the student; must emphasize the importance of entrepreneurship skills, technology, or the application of technology in career fields; and, beginning in the 2014-2015 academic year, must include information from the Department of Economic Opportunity's economic security report. The required personalized academic and career plan must inform students of high school graduation requirements, including a detailed explanation of the diploma designation options, high school assessment and college entrance test requirements; Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program requirements; state university and Florida College System institution admission requirements, available opportunities to earn college credit in high school.

Each school must inform parents about the course curriculum and activities. Each student shall complete a personal education plan that must be signed by the student and the student's parent. The course may be implemented as a stand-alone course or integrated into another course or courses. FS 1003.4156 (1) (e)

### **PROMOTION/RETENTION**

1. Any student entering grade 6 from a school in Florida, must pass all core courses; mathematics, language arts, social studies and science with a grade of 60 or higher. Calhoun County also requires that middle school students take Reading and pass with a 60 or higher.
2. Students who score below proficient on the statewide, standardized ELA and mathematics assessments may be required to receive remediation or may be retained.
3. Credit recovery courses may be offered. A score of 70 or above will be required to earn a credit. Students who are more than one credit behind at the end of the summer may be retained.
4. Any student failing to attain the specified district or state levels of performance for student progression on designated district or state assessments in reading, writing, mathematics, social studies, or science must receive remediation or be retained. This evaluation of progress must be based on the student's classroom work, observations, tests, district and state assessments, and other relevant information, as provided in **F.S. 1008.25**. If a student is retained, it must be in a program different from the previous year's program. The new program must take into account the student's learning style.

The Department of Education has determined that the following options for remediation and retention are available:

- Remediate before the beginning of the next school year and promote;
- Promote and remediate during the following year with more intensive intervention and remediation strategies; or
- Retain and remediate in a different program

## **PROGRESSION OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES IN GRADES 6-8**

### **1. Promotion**

Consideration for promotion of students with disabilities will be based upon mastery of the standards specified for all content areas for their disability and level, goals, and/or objectives as outlined in each student's Individual Educational Plan (IEP). Consideration may also be given to other factors such as:

- Student's general progress
- Chronological age
- Attendance
- Sense of responsibility
- Mental and physical health
- Maturity
- Work habits
- Behavior

Mastery of student performance standards is determined by the student's teacher through the use of formal assessments, teacher-made tests, or teacher observation, as indicated on their IEP. Student mastery of performance standards may be documented through tracking sheets, checklists, grades, or samples of student work.

A student with a disability must meet the same district proficiency levels required for a non-disabled student unless the IEP team determines the student is:

- One for whom the Florida Standards are not appropriate standards, and
- The student meets the exception criteria as set forth in the District Special Programs and Procedures document for FSA, end of course exams, and/or other standardized assessments.

### **2. Retention**

Students with disabilities who do not meet established standards, goals, and/or objectives appropriate to their needs and program may be retained.

### **3. Special Placement Consideration**

Students with disabilities who have not mastered established standards, goals, and/or objectives, and who may not benefit from repeating the same grade, may be assigned to the next higher grade upon recommendation of the Individual Educational Plan (IEP) team.

### **4. Diploma Options**

A parent of the student with a disability shall, in collaboration with the individual education plan (IEP) team during the transition planning process pursuant to s. 1003.5716, declare an intent for the student to graduate from high school with either a standard high school diploma or a certificate of completion. A student with a disability who does not satisfy the standard high school diploma requirements pursuant to this section shall be awarded a certificate of completion. Students entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade in the 2014-2015 school year and thereafter, will be working toward a standard high school diploma. There are various graduation options available for students with disabilities to earn a standard diploma. These options are described in the section titled, "Progression and Standards for Graduation of Students with Disabilities in Grades 9-12" of this student progression plan.

## High School Programs-Grades 9-12

### **HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT--FS 1003.436 (1)(2)**

For the purposes of requirements for high school graduation, one full credit equals a minimum of 135 hours of bona fide instruction in a designated course of study that contains student performance standards, except as otherwise provided through the Credit Acceleration Program (CAP) under s. 1003.4295 (3).

In awarding credit for high school graduation, a one-half credit earned system shall include courses provided on a full-year basis. A student enrolled in a full-year course shall receive one-half credit if the student successfully completes either the first half or the second half of a full-year course but fails to successfully complete the other half of the course and the averaging of the grades obtained in each half would not result in a passing grade. A student enrolled in a full-year course shall receive a full credit if the student successfully completes either the first half or the second half of a full-year course but fails to successfully complete the other half of the course and the averaging of the grades obtained in each half would result in a passing grade, provided that such additional requirements specified in district school board policies, such as class attendance, homework, participation, and other indicators of performance, shall be successfully completed by the student. FS 1003.436 (1)(2)

### **ACCELERATION OPTIONS—FS 1003.4295**

Each high school shall advise each student of courses through which a high school student can earn college credit.

Each high school shall offer at least four courses in dual enrollment or Advanced Placement, including one course each in English, mathematics, science, and social studies.

The Credit Acceleration Program (CAP) is created for the purpose of allowing a student to earn high school credit in Algebra 1, Algebra 2, geometry, United States history, or biology if the student passes the statewide, standardized assessment. A school district shall award course credit to a student who is not enrolled in the course, or who has not completed the course, if the student attains a passing score on the corresponding statewide, standardized assessment. The school district shall permit a student who is not enrolled in the course, or who has not completed the course, to take the assessment during the regular administration of the assessment.

### **BRIGHT FUTURES**

The school district will annually provide to each high school student a complete and accurate Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Evaluation Report and Key. The report will be disseminated at the beginning of each school year. The report must include all high school coursework attempted, the number of credits earned toward each type of award, and the calculation of the grade point average for each award. The report must also identify all requirements not met per award, including the grade point average requirement, as well as identify the awards for which the student has met the academic requirements. The student report cards must contain a disclosure that the grade point average calculated for purposes of the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program may differ from the grade point average on the report card. **(FS 1009.531 (4))**

## GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION PROGRAM

Florida students entering high school may choose from the following options to earn a standard diploma:

- 24-credit program
- 18-credit, Academically Challenging Curriculum to Enhance Learning (ACCEL) option
- AICE program
- IB diploma curriculum

All of these graduation paths include opportunities to take rigorous academic courses designed to prepare students for their future academic and career choices. All students, regardless of graduation program, must earn a cumulative GPA of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale and achieve a passing score on the statewide, standardized Grade 10 ELA Assessment or earn a concordant score on the ACT or SAT. Students who entered grade 9 in the 2011-12 or 2012-13 school years must achieve a passing Algebra 1 EOC assessment score or earn a comparative score if enrolled in Algebra 1 after the 2010-11 school year to graduate with a standard diploma. Students who entered grade 9 in 2013-14 and thereafter, must achieve a passing Algebra 1 EOC assessment score or earn a comparative score in order to graduate with a standard diploma.

Students who complete a minimum of 18 credits, achieve a cumulative GPA of a 2.0 on a 4.0 scale and earn a passing score on the statewide assessments required for high school graduation have an option to earn a standard high school diploma. This option requires that a student complete the standard course requirements for the 24-credit program applicable to the student's grade 9 cohort year without the required physical education course, only three elective courses, and without the online course requirement.

Each high school is required to advise each student of courses through which a high school student can earn college credit, including AP, IB, AICE, dual enrollment, early admission and career academy courses and courses that lead to industry certification, as well as the availability of course offerings through virtual instruction. Each high school is also required to advise each student of the early and accelerated graduation options under [s. 1003.4281, F.S.](#) Students must be advised of eligibility requirements for state scholarship programs and postsecondary admission.

### Standard Diploma Awarding

	<b>24-Credit Program</b>	<b>ACCEL Program</b>
Credit Requirements	24 credits	18 credits (minimum)
Academic Core	4-English/Language Arts 4-Mathematics 3-Science 3-Social Studies 1-Fine Arts	4-English/Language Arts 4-Mathematics 3-Science 3-Social Studies 1-Fine Arts
Physical Education	1 credit	Not required
Electives	8 credits	3 credits
Assessment Requirements	Same	Same
GPA Requirements	2.0 on a 4.0 scale	2.0 on a 4.0 scale

**Students Entering Grade 9 in the 2011-2012 School Year**

<b>4 Credits English/Language Arts</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pass the statewide, standardized grade 10 Reading Assessment or earn a concordant score in order to graduate with a standard diploma.</li> </ul>
<b>4 Credits Mathematics</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One of which must be Algebra 1 and one of which must be Geometry</li> <li>• A student who takes Algebra 1 after the 2010-2011 school year must pass the Algebra 1 EOC assessment, or earn a comparative score, in order to earn a standard diploma.</li> <li>• A student who takes Algebra 1 or Geometry after 2010-2011 school year must take the EOC assessment, but             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is not required to pass to earn course credit and</li> <li>• The EOC results are not required to constitute 30 percent of a student’s final course grade.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• A student who earns an industry certification that articulates to college credit may substitute the certification for up to two mathematics credits, except for Algebra 1 and Geometry.</li> </ul>
<b>3 Credits Science</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One of which must be Biology 1, two of which must have a laboratory component.</li> <li>• A student who takes Biology 1 after the 2010-2011 school year must take the Biology 1 EOC assessment, but is not required to pass the assessment in order to earn course credit and the EOC results are not required to constitute 30 percent of the student’s final course grade.</li> <li>• A student who earns an industry certification that articulates to college credit may substitute the certification for one science course (except for Biology 1).</li> <li>• An identified rigorous Computer Science course with a related industry certification substitutes for up to one science credit (except for Biology 1).</li> </ul>
<b>3 Credits Social Studies</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One credit in World History.</li> <li>• One credit in U.S. History.</li> <li>• A student who takes U.S. History after the 2011-2012 school year must take the U.S. History EOC assessment, but the EOC results are not required to constitute 30 percent of the student’s final course grade.</li> <li>• One-half credit in U.S. Government.</li> <li>• One-half credit in Economics.</li> </ul>
<b>1 Credit Fine and Performing Arts, Speech and Debate, or Practical Arts</b>
<b>1 Credit Physical Education</b>
To include the integration of health
<b>8 Elective Credits</b>
<b>1 Online Course</b>



**Students Entering Grade 9 in the 2012-2013 School Year**

<b>4 Credits English/ELA</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pass the statewide, standardized grade 10 Reading Assessment or earn a concordant score in order to graduate with a standard diploma.</li> </ul>
<b>4 Credits Mathematics</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One of which must be Algebra I and one of which must be Geometry.</li> <li>• A student who takes Algebra I after the 2010-2011 school year must pass the Algebra I EOC assessment, or earn a comparative score, in order to earn a standard high school diploma.</li> <li>• Pass the Algebra 1 end-of-course (EOC) if Algebra 1 is taken after 2010-2011 or a comparative score on the PERT</li> <li>• Industry certifications that lead to college credit may substitute for up to two mathematics credits (except for Algebra I and Geometry)</li> </ul>
<b>3 Credits Science</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One of which must be Biology I, two of which must have a laboratory component.</li> <li>• A student must participate in the Biology 1 EOC assessment (if enrolled after 2010-2011)</li> <li>• An industry certification that leads to college credit substitutes for up to one science credit (except for Biology I).</li> <li>• An identified rigorous Computer Science course with a related industry certification substitutes for up to one science credit (except for Biology I)</li> </ul>
<b>3 Credits Social Studies</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One credit in World History</li> <li>• One credit in U.S. History</li> <li>• A student must participate in the U.S. History EOC assessment (if enrolled after 2011-2012) and performance on the EOC constitutes 30% of the final course grade</li> <li>• One-half credit in U.S. Government</li> <li>• One-half credit in Economics</li> </ul>
<b>1 Credit Fine and Performing Arts, Speech and Debate, or Practical Arts</b>
<b>1 Credit Physical Education</b>
To include the integration of health
<b>8 Elective Credits</b>
<b>1 Online Course</b>

**Students Entering Grade 9 in the 2013-2014 School Year and Thereafter**

<b>4 Credits English/ELA</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pass the statewide, standardized grade 10 ELA assessment or earn a concordant score in order to graduate with a standard diploma.</li> </ul>
<b>4 Credits Mathematics</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One of which must be Algebra I and one of which must be Geometry</li> <li>• Students must participate and pass the Algebra 1 EOC or earn a comparative score on the PERT</li> <li>• Students must participate in the Geometry EOC and the results constitute 30% of the final course grade.</li> <li>• Students enrolled in Algebra 2 must participate in the Algebra 2 EOC and the results constitute 30% of the final course grade</li> <li>• Industry certifications that lead to college credit may substitute for up to two mathematics credits (except for Algebra 1 and Geometry)</li> </ul>
<b>3 Credits Science</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One of which must be Biology I, two of which must be equally rigorous science courses.</li> <li>• Two of the three required credits must have a laboratory component.</li> <li>• Students must participate in the Biology 1 EOC and the results constitute 30% of the final course grade.</li> <li>• An industry certification that leads to college credit substitutes for up to one science credit (except for Biology 1)</li> </ul>
<b>3 Credits Social Studies</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One credit in World History</li> <li>• One credit in U.S. History</li> <li>• A student must participate in the U.S. History EOC assessment (if enrolled after 2011-2012) and performance on the EOC constitutes 30% of the final course grade</li> <li>• One-half credit in U.S. Government</li> <li>• One-half credit in Economics with Financial Literacy</li> </ul>
<b>1 Credit Fine and Performing Arts, Speech and Debate, or Practical Arts</b>
<b>1 Credit Physical Education</b>
To include the integration of health
<b>8 Elective Credits</b>
<b>1 Online Course</b>

**HIGH SCHOOL GRADE LEVEL DETERMINATIONS**

The following will be used to determine high school grade placement for students on the 24 credit option-

1. A student's first year in high school they are classified as a 9<sup>th</sup> grader.
2. A student who has completed one year in high school is classified as a 10<sup>th</sup> grader.
3. Upon completion of 12 credits a student will be classified as an 11<sup>th</sup> grader.
4. Upon completion of 18 credits a student will be classified as a 12<sup>th</sup> grader.

*(These classifications do not apply to junior/senior privileges.)*

Senior status for students on the 18 credit option will be determined by the school administration.

Senior privileges are only given for one year.

High school report cards will not be stamped with promotion status.

Mid-year promotion may occur when students have met credit requirements.

## STANDARD DIPLOMA DESIGNATIONS

Scholar Diploma Designation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• In addition to meeting the 24-credit standard high school diploma requirements, a student must</li><li>• Earn 1 credit in Algebra 2 (must pass EOC);</li><li>• Pass Geometry (EOC);</li><li>• Earn 1 credit in Statistics or an equally rigorous mathematics course;</li><li>• Pass the Biology 1 EOC;</li><li>• Earn 1 credit in Chemistry or Physics;</li><li>• Earn 1 credit in a course equally rigorous to Chemistry or Physics;</li><li>• Pass the U.S. History EOC;</li><li>• Earn 2 credits in the same World Language; and</li><li>• Earn at least 1 credit in AP, IB or AICE or a dual enrollment course.</li><li>•</li><li>• A student is exempt from the Biology 1 and U.S. History assessment if the student is enrolled in an AP, IB or AICE Biology 1 or U.S. History course and the student</li><li>• Takes the respective AP, IB, or AICE assessment; and</li><li>• Earns the minimum score to earn college credit.</li></ul>
Merit Diploma Designation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Meet the standard high school diploma requirements</li><li>• Attain one or more industry certifications from the list established (per s. 1003.492, F.S.)</li></ul>

### CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

A **certificate of completion** will be granted a student after a minimum of at least 12 years of education (excluding kindergarten) and when a pupil has successfully completed the district requirement of 24 credits for graduation, but has failed to pass the statewide, standardized assessment or applicable EOC or maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.0. If the student refuses the Certificate of Completion, he may enroll in a full or part-time "13<sup>th</sup> year program". If the student accepts the Certificate of Completion, he/she may be remediated in either regular or adult school and take the test again. If the student passes FCAT or state approved concordant and completes the district requirement of a grade point average of 2.0, then the student can exchange his/her Certificate of Completion for a standard diploma. (1003.428 (7) (b))

### ADVANCED PLACEMENT

Advanced Placement is the enrollment of an eligible secondary student in a course offered by the Advanced Placement Program administered by the College Board. Postsecondary credit for an AP course shall be awarded to students who score a minimum of 3 on a 5-point scale on the corresponding AP exam. Students shall be exempt from the payment of any fees for administration of the examination regardless of whether or not the student achieves a passing score on the examination.

Credit by examination shall be the program through which postsecondary credit is earned based on the receipt of a specified minimum score on nationally standardized general or subject area examinations. The State Board of Education states minimum scores required for an award of credit in the statewide articulation agreement.

## DUAL ENROLLMENT

Students who have completed grade nine and who demonstrate a readiness to engage in post secondary level academic work will be provided with advanced instruction in cooperation with a post secondary institution as prescribed by an agreement between the Board and the institution. Dual enrollment courses may be taken through Chipola College. Dual enrollment courses taught at high school sites are college courses, which earn college credit and therefore, **must conform to college grading policy.**

Dual enrollment courses that are offered on the campus of Altha Public School are: WOH 2012, WOH 2022, ENC1101, ENC 1102, MAC 1114, MAC 1140.

Dual enrollment courses that are offered on the campus of Blountstown High School are: ENC1101, ENC 1102, FRE 1120, FRE 1121, MAC 1114, MAC 1140, MAC 1105, STA 2023, AS 120, AS 220.

Additional dual enrollment classes are offered virtually.

The district school board shall inform all secondary students and their parents of dual enrollment as an educational option and mechanism for acceleration. Students and their parents shall be informed of eligibility requirements, the option for taking dual enrollment courses beyond the regular school year, and the minimum academic credits required for graduation. Alternative grade calculation, weighting systems, and information regarding student education options that discriminate against dual enrollment courses are prohibited.

A student must express intent to the principal to pursue a post secondary degree to be eligible to participate in these programs. In order to participate, the student must also have written approval of the high school principal, acceptable grade point average, and acceptable college admission test scores. (Refer to Appendix F, Articulation Agreement.)

Students who meet the eligibility requirements of s. 1007.271, F.S., and who choose to participate in dual enrollment programs are exempt from the payment of registration, tuition, and laboratory fees.

## EARLY ADMISSION

Early Admission is a form of dual enrollment through which eligible secondary students enroll in a postsecondary institution on a full-time basis in courses that are creditable toward the high school diploma and the associate or baccalaureate degree. A student must enroll in a minimum of 12 college credit hours per semester or the equivalent to participate in the early admission program. Students enrolled in early admission are exempt from the payment of registration, tuition, and laboratory fees.

To be eligible for enrollment the student must:

1. Be officially enrolled in a public high school located within the college's five county district.
2. Have completed the 11th grade.
3. Have written approval of the high school principal **and** the district school board.
4. Have test scores on all sections of the ACT, PERT, or SAT that are no more than two years old.
5. Meet same placement test score requirements in applicable areas and chosen program of study as all postsecondary students.
6. Have the requirements listed below:

### Academic Program

- passing test scores on all sections of the ACT, PERT, or SAT no more than two years old, **and**
- have a minimum unweighted cumulative high school grade point average of 3.00

### **Workforce Development Program**

- passing scores on all sections of the ACT, PERT, or SAT no more than two years old, **and**
- have a minimum unweighted cumulative high school grade point average of 2.00

Students enrolled in the Early Admission Program are eligible to participate in clubs, but are restricted from holding office.

### **CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION CREDIT**

A student may substitute competencies completed in Computing for College and Careers or Introduction to Technology Information for competencies required in a comparable computer course.

Career Technical Education programs may be substituted for required courses in math, English and science as outlined in the Course Code Directory and State Board Rules, not to exceed two (2) credits in each subject area.

### **ADULT SCHOOL CREDIT**

A student needing credits for graduation or promotion may attend adult school, upon the approval of the principal and guidance counselor. The student may enroll in the Adult School Program, beyond the regular school day, and earn a maximum of 2 credits that will apply toward graduation requirements.

At the discretion of the principal and guidance counselor, out-of-district transfer students may be allowed to earn additional credits due to incompatibility of scheduled curriculum offerings.

### **FAILURE**

Students failing a required course will be required to make up the work by repeating the course failed during the regular school year, or by using the credit recovery program, or virtual school during the regular school year or during summer months.

### **HONOR GRADUATES**

Honor graduates will be determined using a weighted GPA. The GPA is an average of all grades on the high school transcript. The GPA will be determined following the posting of dual enrollment grades. Grades will be weighted on a 5.0 scale for the honors, AP, and dual enrollment courses. An "A" in an honors class will count 5.0 points, a "B" 4.0 points, etc. Non-honors classes will be counted on a 4.0 scale. Students with a weighted GPA of 3.5 or higher will graduate with Honors.

Beginning with the 2016-2017 SY graduating class, courses used to determine the GPA for honor graduates will be the same courses used for Bright Futures determination. Honor graduates will have a weighted GPA of 3.5.

## **SALUTATORIAN /VALEDICTORIAN**

Language Arts credits which must include 4 of the following

- ELA I, II, III, or IV
- ELA I, II, III, or IV Honors
- AP ELA I, II, III, or IV
- ENC 1101 or
- ENC 1102

4 Mathematics credits

- Algebra 1, Algebra 1 Honors or AP Algebra 1 (required)
- Geometry, Geometry Honors or AP Geometry (required)
- 2 elective math credits which may include dual enrollment courses

3 Sciences credits

- Biology 1, Biology 1 Honors or AP Biology (required)
- 2 science credits which may include dual enrollment courses
- 2 science credits must have a laboratory component
- 2 science credits must be equally rigorous

3 Social Sciences credits (required)

- World History, World History Honors, AP World History or Dual Enrollment World History
- US History, US History Honors, AP US History or Dual Enrollment US History
- ½ credit-US Government, US Government Honors, AP US Government or Dual Enrollment US Government
- ½ credit-Economics with Financial Literacy, Economics with Financial Literacy Honors, AP Economics with Financial Literacy or Dual Enrollment Economics with Financial Literacy

2 World Language credits (*sequential, in same language*)

A student must be enrolled full time in Blountstown High School or Altha Public School by September 1 of the 12<sup>th</sup> grade, to be eligible for the salutatorian and valedictorian award.

**In the event of a tie, Calhoun County School District shall apply the following criteria in the following order:**

1. The product of each student's weighted GPA on the 16 core courses and best combined SAT (excluding the writing section or equivalent ACT (excluding the writing section) score at a single administration of the test;
2. The product of each student's weighted GPA on the 16 core courses and combined SAT (excluding the writing section) or equivalent ACT (excluding the writing section) score at the earliest single administration of the test;
3. The higher of the total number of academic high school credits earned.

## **PROGRESSION AND STANDARDS FOR GRADUATION OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES IN GRADES 9-12**

Students with disabilities can earn a standard high school diploma using any high school graduation option that is available to all students, including those described in sections 1003.4282(1)-(9) and 1002.3105 (5), Florida Statutes (F.S.)

All students with disabilities should be supported through the provision of allowable accommodations and specially designed instruction to work toward a standard diploma. Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2014-15 school year, a parent of the student with a disability shall, in collaboration with the individual educational plan (IEP) team during the transition planning process pursuant to s. 1003.5716, declare an intent for the student to graduate from high school with either a standard high school diploma or a certificate of completion. A student with a disability who does not satisfy the standard high school diploma requirements pursuant to this section shall be awarded a certificate of completion.

The following graduation options are available for students with disabilities entering grade 9 during the 2014-15 school year and all subsequent years:

- 24-credit Standard Diploma (may choose either Scholar or Merit Designation)
- 18-credit Academically Challenging Curriculum to Enhance Learning (ACCEL) option
- Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) curriculum
- International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma curriculum
- Standard Diploma via Access courses

Any change to the high school graduation option specified in the student's IEP must be approved by the parent and is subject to verification for appropriateness by an independent reviewer selected by the parent as provided in s. 1003.572.

A student with a disability who meets the standard high school diploma requirements in this section may defer the receipt of a standard high school diploma if the student:

1. Has an IEP that prescribes special education, transition services, or related services through age 21; and
2. Is enrolled in accelerated college credit instruction pursuant to s 1007.27, industry certification courses that lead to college credit, a collegiate high school program, courses necessary to satisfy the Scholar designation requirements, or a structured work-study, internship, or preapprenticeship program.

A student with a disability who receives a certificate of completion and has an IEP that prescribes special education, transition planning, transition services, or related services through 21 years of age may continue to receive the specified instruction and services.

Any waiver of the statewide, standardized assessment requirements by the IEP team, pursuant to s. 1008.22 (3) (c), must be approved by the parent and is subject to verification for appropriateness by an independent reviewer selected by the parent as provided for in s. 1003.572.

The following high school graduation requirements are available for students with significant cognitive disabilities:

1. For students with disabilities for whom the IEP team has determined that the Florida Standards Alternate Assessment is the most appropriate measure of the student's skills:
  - a. A combination of course substitutions, assessments, industry certifications, other accelerated options, or occupational completion points appropriate to the student's unique skills and abilities that meet the criteria established by the State Board of Education rule.
  - b. A portfolio of quantifiable evidence that documents a student's mastery of academic standards through rigorous metrics established by State Board of Education rule. A portfolio may include, but not be limited to, documentation of work experience, internships, community service, and postsecondary credit.
2. For a student with a disability for whom the IEP team has determined that mastery of academic and employment competencies is the most appropriate way for a student to demonstrate his/her skills:
  - a. Documented completion of the minimum high school graduation requirements, including the number of course credits prescribed by rules of the State Board of Education.
  - b. Documented achievement of all annual goals and short-term objectives for academic and employment competencies, industry certifications, and occupational completion points specified in the student's transition plan. The documentation must be verified by the IEP team.
  - c. Documented successful employment for the number of hours per week specified in the student's transition plan, for the equivalent of 1 semester, and payment of a minimum wage in compliance with the requirements of the federal Fair Labor Standards Act.
  - d. Documented mastery of the academic and employment competencies, industry certifications, and occupational competition points specified in the student's transition plan. The documentation must be verified by the IEP team, the employer, and the teacher. The transition plan must be developed and signed by the student, parent, teacher, and employer before placement in employment and must identify the following:
    - 1) The expected academic and employment competencies, industry certifications, and occupational competition points;
    - 2) The criteria for determining and certifying mastery of the competencies;
    - 3) The work schedule and the minimum number of hours to be worked per week; and
    - 4) A description of the supervision to be provided by the school district.



Students entering grade 9 in the 2014-2015 school year (and all subsequent years) who are working toward a standard diploma via access courses must meet the following graduation requirements:

Subject	Course Name	Course Code	Credits
ELA	Access English 1/2	7910111	4 credits
	Access English 3/4	7910112	
Mathematics	Access Algebra 1A	7912080	4 credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 credit must be Algebra 1 or Algebra 1A or 1B</li> <li>• 1 credit must be Geometry</li> </ul>
	Access Algebra 1B	7912090	
	Access Algebra 1	7912075	
	Access Geometry	7912065	
	Access Liberal Arts Math	7912070	
Science	Access Biology	7920015	3 credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 credit must be Biology</li> </ul>
	Access Earth/Space Science	7920020	
	Access Integrated Science 1	7920025	
	Access Chemistry	7920011	
Social Studies	Access World History	7921030	3 credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 credit in World History</li> <li>• 1 credit in U.S. History</li> <li>• .5 credit in U.S. Government</li> <li>• .5 credit in Economics w/ Financial Literacy</li> </ul>
	Access U.S. History	7921025	
	Access U.S. Government	7921015	
	Access Economics w/ Financial Literacy	7921022	
	Access Economics	7921020	
Fine Arts and Performing Arts/Practical Arts	Access Visual/Performing Arts	7967010	1 credit
	Access Drawing 1	7967015	
	Access Theater 1	7967020	
	Access 2D Studio Art	7967025	
Physical Education w/ Health Integrated	Access HOPE 9-12	7915015	1 credit
	Access Personal Fitness	7915020	
Elective Credits	See Course Code Directory		8 credits
Online Course	Varies		1 course

**\*\*Access courses allow students to earn multiple credits in the same course.\*\***

**\*\*More rigorous courses may be substituted to meet the credit requirement for an access course.\*\***

### SPECIAL DIPLOMA OPTIONS

The options listed below are only available for students in 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grades during the 2015-2016 school year who are currently working to earn a special diploma:

#### Special Diploma Option 1:

Students with disabilities working toward a Special Diploma Option 1 must meet the following graduation criteria:

- a. Complete 24 credits comprised of:
- |                        |                   |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Mathematics =          | 4 credits         |
| English =              | 4 credits         |
| Science =              | 2 credits         |
| Social Studies =       | 2 credits         |
| Physical Education =   | 1 credit          |
| Vocational Education = | 1 credit          |
| Electives =            | <u>10 credits</u> |
| <b>TOTAL =</b>         | <b>24 CREDITS</b> |

- b. Maintain a 2.0 Minimum GPA
- c. Participate in the Florida Standards Assessment as applicable per grade level.
- d. Individual student need and IEP goals determine course selection for students with disabilities. Level 1 courses are appropriate for students working toward a special diploma.

**Special Diploma Option 2:**

Students with disabilities working toward a Special Diploma Option 2 must meet the following graduation criteria:

- a. Complete credits comprised of:
  - Mathematics = 2 credits (either Access Courses or Level 1 Courses)
  - English = 2 credits (either Access Courses or Level 1 Courses)
  - Electives = 4 credits (either Access Courses or general elective courses)
  - Work Requirement = Complete 1 semester or at least 18 weeks of successful, paid employment at minimum wage or higher.
- b. Maintain a 2.0 Minimum GPA
- c. Participate in the Florida Standards Alternate Assessment as applicable per grade level.
- d. Master all IEP annual goals and objectives related to employment and community competencies as documented in the Employment and Community Competencies Training Plan (ESE #35f).

**STANDARDS FOR GRADUATION FOR STUDENT WITH DISABILITIES**

**1. WAIVER OF STATEWIDE, STANDARDIZED ASSESSMENT RESULTS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

Section 1008.22(3)(c)1., Florida Statutes (F.S.), requires that school districts provide instruction to prepare students with disabilities to demonstrate satisfactory performance in the core content knowledge and skills necessary for successful grade-to-grade progression and high school graduation. Assessment results may be waived under specific circumstances for students with disabilities for the purpose of receiving a course grade or a standard high school diploma. Specific requirements regarding the waiver process as found in s. 1008.22(3)(c)2., F.S.

To be considered for a statewide, standardized assessment results waiver, the following criteria must be met:

- The student must be identified as a student with a disability, as defined in s. 1007.02, F.S.
- The student must have an individual educational plan (IEP).
- The student must have taken the statewide, standardized assessment with appropriate allowable accommodations at least once.
- In accordance with s. 1008.22(3)(c)2., F.S., the IEP team must make a determination of whether a statewide, standardized assessment accurately measures the student’s abilities, taking into consideration all allowable accommodations for students with disabilities.

## **2. PARENT APPROVAL FOR WAIVER OF STATEWIDE, STANDARDIZED ASSESSMENT RESULTS**

Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2014-2015 school year...(e) Any waiver of the statewide, standardized assessment requirements by the individual education team, pursuant to s. 1008.22(3)(c), must be approved by the parent and is subject to verification for appropriateness by an independent reviewer selected by the parent as provided for in s. 1003.572

## **3. STATE AND DISTRICT ASSESSMENT OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

In accordance with section 1008.22(3)(c), Florida Statutes (F.S.), all students enrolled in public schools are required to participate in the statewide, standardized assessment program.

### **a) Extraordinary Exemptions**

A student with a disability who has a circumstance, defined according to s. 1008.202, F.S., may be eligible for an extraordinary exemption from participation in the statewide assessment.

### **b) Medical Complexity Exemptions**

Section 1008.22(9), F.S., establishes criteria to guide the IEP team in making a determination about a student with a disability who has the need for an exemption of the statewide, standardized assessments because of the student's medical complexity.

### **c) Florida Standards Alternate Assessment**

The decision that a student with a significant cognitive disability will participate in the Florida Alternate Assessment as defined in Section 1008.22(3)(c), F.S., is made by the IEP team and recorded on the IEP. The provisions with regard to parental consent for participation in the Florida Alternate Assessment in accordance with subsection 6A-6.0331(10), F.A.C., must be followed. The following criteria must be met:

- 1) Even with appropriate and allowable instructional accommodations, assistive technology, or accessible instructional materials, the student requires modifications, as defined in paragraph 6A-6.03411(1)(z), F.A.C., to the grade-level general state content standards pursuant to Rule 6A-1.09401, F.A.C.; and
- 2) The student requires direct instruction in academic areas of English language arts, math, social studies and science based on access points, pursuant to Rule 6A-1.09401, F.A.C., in order to acquire, generalize, and transfer skills across settings.

### **d) Testing Accommodations for Students with Disabilities in District and/or State Assessment**

Each student with a disability is expected to participate in any state or district assessment of student achievement with accommodations if determined appropriate by the individual education plan (IEP) team and recorded on the student's IEP. Parents will be notified if the classroom accommodations provided in class are not also provided during the FCAT/FSA/EOC administration. FCAT/FSA/EOC accommodations cannot be made that jeopardize test validity. Accommodations identified for testing situations shall be those allowable accommodations identified in the test manual. Students may not be given accommodations on the FCAT/FSA/EOC that are not routinely used in the classroom.

## **DUAL ENROLLMENT ARTICULATION AGREEMENTS**

The superintendent of schools and president of Chipola College have jointly developed and are implementing a comprehensive articulated acceleration program for students enrolled in their respective school districts and service areas.

## **ADULT SCHOOL PROMOTION AND PLACEMENT**

### **1. GRADE CLASSIFICATION OF STUDENTS**

- a. Students will not be classified by grade level.
- b. The open entry/open exit program allows credits to be earned by completing with 70% accuracy all work prescribed for each course.
- c. Students are placed on an appropriate instructional level based on performance on diagnostic tests.

**2. MASTERY OF STUDENT PERFORMANCE STANDARDS: ASSIGNMENT OF CREDITS**

- a. The teacher and the director of the adult school shall certify documentation of mastery of the state student performance standards for the assignment of credit.
- b. The director of the adult school shall develop the procedures for certifying mastery of the student performance standards and for assigning credits.

**3. REQUIRED INSTRUCTION**

- a. Required course of study for adult students will specify the required courses of study at each level.
- b. One of the three mathematics credits required for graduation must be Algebra I, a series of courses equivalent to Algebra I, or a higher level mathematics course.
- c. A student may not enroll in Level I courses unless assessment of the student indicates that a more rigorous course of study would be inappropriate, in which case a written assessment of the need must be included in the student's individual educational plan or in a student performance plan, signed by the principal, the guidance counselor, and the parent or guardian (or the student if he/she is 18 years old or older).

**4. STANDARDS FOR GRADUATION FOR ADULT EDUCATION**

There are two (2) methods of graduation from the Calhoun County Adult Education Program: the Calhoun County Diploma and State of Florida High School Diploma.

**a. Calhoun County Diploma**

Students who show mastery of the state student performance standards, complete the 24 course credits for Option 1 or the 18 credits for Option 2 & 3 as required by the State, and achieve a passing score on the FCAT will receive a standard diploma. Options for graduation requirements for Adult Education students are:

- 1) The 1/2 credit requirement in physical education is waived due to inadequate facilities.
- 2) The required laboratory components in the science courses are also waived due to inadequate facilities.

**b. State of Florida High School Diploma**

Students who pass the **General Education Development Test (GED)** in lieu of the normal graduation requirements will be granted a State of Florida High School Equivalency Diploma. **Calhoun County does not administer the GED.**

Appendix A

CC-64-PPSF  
6-30-2020  
Rev. 9-17-14

CALHOUN COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD  
STUDENT PROGRESSION STAFFING FORM FOR K-5

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Dates of contact with parent: \_\_\_\_\_

A review of school records including standardized tests and daily work for \_\_\_\_\_ has been reviewed to determine appropriate placement for the \_\_\_\_\_ school year. In addition, criteria for promotion, as outlined in the Student Progression Plan, has been reviewed.

The committee is in agreement that the following placement is in the best interest of the student and that all other alternatives have been exhausted and would be ineffective at this time.

Placement

Retained in grade \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for Retention \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Placed for Good Cause in grade \_\_\_\_\_

Reasons for placement: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Summer School \_\_\_\_\_

Staffing Committee:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Principal/Designee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Guidance Counselor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Teacher(s)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

- Parent came to meeting
- Contacted parent by phone
- Mailed copy to parent

(If parent is unable to attend the meeting, contact by phone may be made with documentation. Copy should be mailed if parent does not attend the meeting.)

**Appendix B**  
**Calhoun County School District**  
**Physical Education Plan**

Calhoun County has three levels of Physical Education: elementary, middle and high school. We offer specially designed physical education for students with disabilities and emphasize the same outcomes appropriate for their ability.

**Physical Education Requirements for PreK – 5**

Students in grades K-5 shall participate in a physical education program that stresses physical fitness and encourages healthy, active lifestyles. Senate Bill 610 requires 150 minutes of physical education per week for grades K-5 and for students in grade 6 who are enrolled in a school that contains one or more elementary grades. On any day during which physical education instruction is conducted there must be at least 30 consecutive minutes of physical activities of at least a moderate intensity level.

Elementary Physical Education is staffed for a minimum of thirty minutes of daily physical education. Our schools may elect to offer physical education fewer days but for longer durations of time. The instructional staff is made up of certified physical education instructors and non-certified assistants. The majority of the staff consists of certified instructors. The elementary program is a sequential, well-planned and coordinated program of physical, mental and social activities designed to develop a positive self image assuring that all students are successful. The instructional program is designed to: develop physical fitness, wellness, and motor skills; foster creativity; emphasize safety; motivate expression and communication; promote self understanding and acceptance; and stimulate social development. The program must serve the developmental needs of each child.

Students in grades K-8 are eligible to waive the physical education requirement if they meet any of the following criteria:

1. The student is enrolled or required to enroll in a remedial course.
2. The student's parent indicates in writing to the school that;
  - a. The parent requests that the student enroll in another course from among those courses offered as options by the school district; or
  - b. The student is participating in physical activities outside the school day which are equal to or in excess of the mandated requirement.

**Physical Education Expected Outcomes - Grades Pre-K-5**

1. The student analyzes the benefits of regular participation in physical activity.
2. The student achieves and maintains a health-enhancing level of physical fitness.
3. The student demonstrates responsible personal and social behavior in physical activity.
4. The student understands how participating in physical activity promotes inclusion and an understanding of the abilities and cultural diversity of people.
5. The student demonstrates competency in many movement forms and proficiency in a few forms of physical activity.

**Physical Education Requirements for 6-8**

Students in grades 6-8 shall participate in a physical education program that stresses physical fitness and encourages healthy, active lifestyles. Beginning with the 2009-2010 school year, the equivalent of one class period per day of physical education for one semester of each year is required for students enrolled in grades 6 through 8. All middle school physical education instruction is conducted by certified physical educators. The middle school program emphasizes learning specific skills or groups of skills. Activities become means through which the student can practice, refine and develop competence in skills. The goal is to develop students who are able to use skills in a variety of contexts and situations. The specific courses consist of locomotor skills, physical fitness, body management, throwing and catching, striking with body parts and striking with objects.

Students in grades K-8 are eligible to waive the physical education requirement if they meet any of the following criteria:

1. The student is enrolled or required to enroll in a remedial course.
2. The student's parent indicates in writing to the school that;
  - a. The parent requests that the student enroll in another course from among those courses offered as options by the school district; or
  - b. The student is participating in physical activities outside the school day which are equal to or in excess of the mandated requirement.

#### Physical Education Outcomes - Grades 6-8

1. The student knows basic skills and safety procedures to participate in outdoor sports.
2. The student describes the principles of training and conditioning for specific physical activities.
3. The student knows how to apply mature patterns of locomotor, non-locomotor, body-management throwing, catching, and striking skills while participating in modified versions of team and individual sports.
4. The student describes the principles of training and conditioning for specific physical activities.
5. The student knows how to sustain an aerobic activity, maintaining target heart rate, to achieve cardiovascular benefits.
6. The student knows the difference between muscular strength and muscular endurance, activities that contribute to the improvement of strength and endurance, and the various types of muscular strength and endurance required to perform different activities.
7. The student knows how to achieve and maintain appropriate cardiovascular fitness, flexibility, muscular strength, endurance and body composition.
8. The student plans and participates in an individualized fitness program, and explores new ways to achieve activity goals in their individual wellness plan.
9. The student knows how to use a journal to document the benefits of participation in physical activity as part of an individual wellness plan.

#### Physical Education Requirements for 9 -12

The following requirements apply to entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade students of the 2007-2008 school year and thereafter: 1 credit in physical education to include the integration of health.

Based on the updated Physical Education graduation requirements, Senate Bill 2092 reinstated waiver language associated with Physical Education. The application of waivers is as follows:

1. If the district has chosen the Personal fitness/Physical Education activity elective courses to fulfill the High School Physical Education graduation requirement, then the following waivers apply:
  - a. Participation in two seasons of an interscholastic sport AND passing grade of "C" on the Personal Fitness Competency test replaces both the .5 credit requirement in Personal Fitness and the .5 credit requirement in a Physical Education activity elective for a total of 1 credit in Physical Education.
  - b. Completion of one semester of Marching Band with a passing grade of "C: replaces the .5 credit of the Physical Education activity elective. The student must still take the Personal Fitness class (.5 credit) to complete the 1 credit in Physical Education.
  - c. Participation in a Dance class satisfies the .5 credit of the Physical Education activity elective. The student must still take the Personal fitness class (.5 credit) to complete the 1 credit in Physical Education.
  - d. Completion of two years in a Reserve Officer Training Corps (R.O.T.C.) class satisfies 1 credit of the Physical Education activity electives. However, the student must still take the Personal Fitness class (.5 credit) to satisfy the Physical Education graduation requirement in those districts choosing this option. Students using the ROTC waiver will end up with 1.5 credits in Physical Education.
2. If the district has chosen the Health Opportunities through Physical Education (HOPE) of the HOPE-PE Variation course requirements to fulfill the Physical Education graduation requirement, the following waivers apply:

- a. Participation in two seasons of an interscholastic sport AND a passing grade of “C” on the Personal Fitness Competency test satisfies the 1 credit Physical Education requirement.
- b. Completion of two years in a Reserve Officer Training Corps (R. O. T. C.) class satisfies the 1 credit Physical Education requirement.

Physical Education Expected Outcomes - Grades 9-12

1. The student knows how to maintain appropriate levels of cardiovascular fitness, muscular strength and endurance, flexibility, and body composition necessary for a healthy lifestyle.
2. The student knows how to apply the results of fitness assessments to guide changes in a personal program of physical activity and develop a training and conditioning program that enhances individual health-related needs.
3. The student uses technology to assess, enhance, and maintain fitness and skills.
4. The student maintains and improves motor skills and knowledge necessary for participation in beneficial physical activity.
5. The student knows how to make changes in an individual wellness plan as lifestyle changes occur.
6. The students know the correlation between obesity, high blood pressure, and increased physical activity.
7. The student knows that physical activity reduces certain health risk factors.
8. The student knows that regular physical activity can relieve the stress of everyday life.
9. The student identifies the effects of age, gender, race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, and culture upon physical activity preferences and exercise habits.
10. The student knows the role of physical activity in the prevention of disease and the reduction of health-care costs.
11. The student understands the role of physical activity as a potential vehicle for social interaction and cooperative relations within the family and workplace.