

1 Transylvania County students shall meet local Board of Education promotion (Policy IKE),  
2 attendance (Policy JE-R), and test standards to be eligible for promotion or secondary course  
3 credit.  
4

5 **Test Standards**

6 Students in grades 3-8 ~~must~~ **are expected to** achieve at or above a Level III on the North Carolina  
7 End-of-Grade Tests in reading, mathematics, fifth and eighth grade science, and/or their alternate  
8 assessment (for special education or Limited English Proficient students) to be eligible for  
9 promotion.  
10

11 Students **in high school** ~~must~~ **are expected to** achieve at or above a Level III on the North  
12 Carolina End-of-Course Tests to be eligible for course credit. The highest grade on an End-of-  
13 Course (EOC) test shall count as twenty-five percent (25%) of a student’s final grade in each  
14 high school course.  
15

16 **Diploma Standards**

17 To receive a North Carolina high school diploma, all students must:

- 18     ▪ Meet all existing local and state graduation requirements;
- 19     ▪ ~~Achieve a passing score on the North Carolina Competency Test (Class of 2009);~~
- 20     ▪ ~~Achieve a passing score on both parts of the computer skills test (Class of 2009), and a~~
- 21     ▪ ~~Level III required for the Online Computer Skills Test for the Class of 2010 and beyond;~~
- 22     ▪ Achieve at or above a Level III on the tenth grade North Carolina writing test;
- 23     ▪ Complete a North Carolina Graduation Project during English IV; and
- 24     ▪ Meet Exit Standards for the Class of 2010 and beyond.

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27 **Opportunities for Students Not Meeting the Standard**

28 The teacher shall confer with the parent/guardian of students not meeting test standards. Parental  
29 contact shall be initiated within two (2) working days of the teacher's receipt of test results. The  
30 teacher shall discuss (via telephone or in person) with the parent/guardian the following options:  
31

Grades 3-8	Grades 9-12
Retest with remediation ( <b>minimum of 5 hours and maximum of 10 hours per subject test depending on individual student’s needs</b> ).	Retest with remediation (minimum of 5 hours and maximum of 10 hours per subject test depending on individual student’s needs).
<b>Students who score within one Standard Error of Measure of a Level III after the retest may be promoted by the principal if also passing teacher standards with a C or higher.</b>	<b>Students who score within one Standard Error of Measure of a Level III after the retest may receive course credit if there is a passing grade once the test score is averaged with the classroom grade.</b>

<p>Waiver Review Committee to recommend grade retention, additional remediation and retesting, or promotion <b>for students not scoring within one Standard Error of Measure of a Level III.</b></p>	<p>Waiver Review Committee to recommend course credit or failure for students <b>not</b> scoring within one Standard Error of Measure <b>of a Level III</b> on the first test or <b>first retest if there is a passing grade once the test score is averaged with the classroom grade.</b></p>
	<p><del>Second retest with remediation (10 hours per subject test). Waiver Review Committee to recommend course credit or failure.</del></p>

32  
33 Students participating in the above remedial option(s) shall be given the opportunity to retest on  
34 the designated retest day(s). ~~At least ten (10) hours of remedial instruction shall be provided~~  
35 ~~before End-of-Grade testing.~~ A minimum of five (5) hours and a maximum of ten (10) hours of  
36 remedial instruction shall be provided before the first End-of-Course **or End-of-Grade** retest. ~~A~~  
37 ~~minimum of ten (10) additional hours of remedial instruction shall be provided before the second~~  
38 ~~End-of-Course retest.~~

39  
40 Students who do not score at least a Level II on an End-of-Grade or End-of-Course test are not  
41 required to participate in retesting, but their parents may request in writing to continue with  
42 retesting in order to meet the promotion or course credit standard. The parent(s) of a student  
43 who scores a Level II **on an End-of-Course test**, but whose class average is too low to eventually  
44 pass the course, shall request in writing if they wish to waive the remediation requirement;  
45 however, the student is still required to take the retest.

46  
47 Transylvania County Schools shall not charge a fee for summer school or other summer  
48 remediation.

49  
50 Each school shall develop ~~and annually evaluate/modify a "safety nets"~~ **a "safety net"** plan for  
51 supporting student success. ~~By the end of the first school month, each school must submit this~~  
52 ~~plan to the Board.~~ **Plans will be developed and submitted to the Board of Education at the**  
53 **beginning of each school improvement plan cycle.** At a minimum, the school-wide safety nets  
54 will include plans for academic coaching and regular communication with parents.

55  
56 Each student not on grade level or not making adequate progress toward graduation shall have a  
57 Personalized Education Plan developed cooperatively by the student, parent, and teachers(s)  
58 **unless interventions are already addressed by an Individualized Education Program plan.** Each  
59 Personalized Education Plan shall include intervention and monitoring strategies. Students not  
60 meeting the testing standard on End-of-Grade exams will have a Personalized Education Plan  
61 developed during the first month of the next school year.

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63 **Waivers from End-of-Grade Testing Standard(s)**

64 Students ~~in grades 3-8~~ who do not score at or above **one Standard Error of Measure below** a  
65 ~~Level III on an End-of-Grade a test in reading, math and/or science~~ may be considered for a

66 waiver from this policy under certain circumstances. A waiver review committee shall be  
67 established in each school to determine if the student has attained competency of the grade level  
68 **or course material and met the state's exit standard for the course** even though the test score is  
69 **not one Standard Error of Measure** below Level III.

70

### 71 **Waiver Review Committee for End-of-Grade Tests (Reading, Math and Science)**

72 The Waiver Review Committee ~~for grades 3-8~~ will consist of a central office administrator, a  
73 principal of a different school, and a teacher within the school other than the ~~student's classroom~~  
74 ~~teacher~~ **teacher of the course or class in question**. The student's classroom teacher, the parent(s),  
75 an advocate approved by the parent(s), and the school principal may be present at the committee  
76 review to speak for the student and demonstrate evidence of the student's competency ~~in the~~  
77 ~~grade level material~~. Students with disabilities and Limited English Proficient students being  
78 considered for a waiver shall have teachers with expertise in these areas attend and present  
79 information to the review committees.

80

81 A committee review shall be initiated once the student has completed the ~~first~~ retest. ~~The~~  
82 ~~student's parent(s) may initiate a review by a written request to the EOG teacher or principal.~~

83

84 ~~In order to be considered for a committee review, a student must meet promotion (Policy IKE)~~  
85 ~~and attendance (Policy JE R) standards.~~

86

87 The review committee will consider, at a minimum, the following information: formal test and  
88 achievement data other than the state test, teacher tests and quizzes, projects and other  
89 performance products, attendance, participation in regular academic coaching, participation in  
90 remediation prior to retesting, and any additional information that ~~verifies that a student is at~~  
91 ~~grade level; or for students with disabilities or limited English proficiency, evidence that the~~  
92 ~~student is making adequate progress to meet grade level requirements at the next grade level~~  
93 **demonstrates evidence of the student's competency in the course material**.

94

95 The review committee will make a recommendation to the principal regarding ~~promotion to the~~  
96 ~~next grade level~~ **the course credit or grade level promotion**. ~~The committee could recommend~~  
97 ~~additional remediation, retesting, or promotion for students not scoring at or above a Level III.~~  
98 The principal has the final decision in the ~~promotion or retention of the student~~ **granting the**  
99 **course credit or promotion, requiring other remedial options, or requiring the student to repeat**  
100 **the course or grade.**

101

102 **A high school student who received course credit is deemed to have met the state's exit standard**  
103 **requirement in that course for graduation.**

104

105 A statement signed by the principal, the parent/guardian, and the student is required for the  
106 ~~waiver from the test standard for promotion~~ **of any standard for any course.**

107

108

109 **High School Diploma Standards**

110 High school students who do not receive a passing score on the competency test (Class of 2009),  
111 the writing test, and/or the computer skills test will be given the opportunity to retest within a  
112 reasonable time from receipt of the test results after focused remediation.

113

114 **Waivers From End-of-Course Testing Standard(s)**

115 Students in grades 9-12 who do not score at or above a Level III on an End-of-Course test may  
116 be considered for a waiver from this policy under certain circumstances. A waiver review  
117 committee shall be established in each school to determine if the student has attained  
118 competency of the course material and met the state's exit standard for the course even though  
119 the test score is below Level III.

120

121 **Waiver Review Committee for End-of-Course Tests**

122 The Waiver Review Committee for EOC courses will consist of a central office administrator, a  
123 principal of a different school, and a teacher within the school other than the teacher of the  
124 course in question. The student's classroom teacher, the parent(s), an advocate approved the  
125 parent(s), and the school principal may be present at the committee review to speak for the  
126 student and demonstrate evidence of the student's competency in the course material. Students  
127 with disabilities and Limited English Proficient students being considered for a waiver shall have  
128 teachers with expertise in these areas attend and present information to the review committees.

129

130 A committee review shall be initiated when or if one of the following conditions has been met:

131

- 132 1. After the first retest, the student scores within one Standard Error of Measure of a  
133 Level III on either the initial test or the first retest; or
- 134 2. After the second retest if the student has not scored within one Standard Error of  
135 Measure of a Level III on any test administration.

136

137 The student's parent(s) may initiate a review by a written request to the EOC teacher or  
138 principal.

139

140 In order to be considered for a committee review, a student must have a passing average in the  
141 course once the highest of any test or retest score is counted as 25% of the overall grade. Also,  
142 the student must meet promotion (Policy IKE) and attendance (Policy JE-R) standards.

143

144 The review committee will consider, at a minimum, the following information: formal test and  
145 achievement data other than the state test, teacher tests and quizzes, projects and other  
146 performance products, attendance, participation in regular academic coaching, participation in  
147 remediation prior to retesting, and any additional information that demonstrates evidence of the  
148 student's competency in the course material.

149

150 ~~The review committee will make a recommendation to the principal regarding the course credit.~~  
151 ~~The principal has the final decision in granting the course credit, requiring other remedial~~  
152 ~~options, or requiring the student to repeat the course.~~

153  
154 ~~A student who receives course credit is deemed to have met the state's exit standard requirement~~  
155 ~~in that course for graduation.~~

156  
157 ~~A statement signed by the principal, the parent/guardian, and the student is required for the~~  
158 ~~waiver of any standard for any course.~~

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160 **Testing Accommodations**

161 Accommodations to the testing procedures shall be consistent for every test administration.  
162 These accommodations and modifications shall comply with the guidelines established by the  
163 State Department of Public Instruction.

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165 **Student Accountability Standards for Students with Disabilities**

166 The Board believes that students with disabilities can achieve at the same levels as students  
167 without disabilities. To the extent possible, students with disabilities will be held to the same  
168 standards as all other students. All intervention and other opportunities, benefits, and resources  
169 that are made available to students without disabilities shall be made available to students with  
170 disabilities who participate in the student promotion standards. Such opportunities will be in  
171 addition to the special education services provided to the student.

172  
173 **Student Accountability Standards for Students with Limited English Proficiency**

174 The Board believes that a student with limited English proficiency can achieve at the same levels  
175 as other students. To the extent possible, students with limited English proficiency will be held  
176 to the same standards as all other students. All intervention and other opportunities, benefits, and  
177 resources that are made available to other students shall be made available to students with  
178 limited English proficiency who participate in the student promotion standards.

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180 **Exit Documents**

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- 182 1. ~~Merit Diploma~~—~~Students completing all graduation requirements who have not~~  
183 ~~received a waiver from one or more End of Course test standard under the Student~~  
184 ~~Accountability for Academic Achievement Policy.~~
  - 185  
186 2. ~~Diploma~~—~~Students completing all graduation requirements, but who have received a~~  
187 ~~waiver from one or more End of Course test standard under the Student~~  
188 ~~Accountability for Academic Achievement Policy.~~
  - 189  
190 3. ~~Certificate of Achievement~~—~~Students who satisfy all state and local graduation~~  
191 ~~requirements, but who fail the competency test(s) (Class of 2009) or the Online~~  
192 ~~Computer Skills Test (Class of 2010 and beyond).~~

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194 4. ~~Graduation Certificate~~ Exceptional students as identified by G.S. 115C-109 who do  
195 not meet the requirements for a high school diploma.  
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197 **Staff, students, parents, and the community shall be informed of this policy.**

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199 *Reference: Title 16, North Carolina Administrative Code .0103 (Graduation Requirements)*  
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202  
203 APPROVED BY BOARD  
204 AND EFFECTIVE 6/27/94  
205 REVISED 9/25/95  
206 REVISED 10/19/98  
207 REVISED 8/21/00  
208 REVISED 5/21/01  
209 REVISED 8/18/03  
210 REVISED 8/15/05  
211 REVISED 12/11/06  
212 REVISED 6/18/07  
213 REVISED 5/4/09  
214 **REVISED** \_\_\_\_\_