

# NEWS RELEASE



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## **Vast majority of students meet promotion requirements; Gwinnett Board acts on Review Procedure recommendations**

Of the 47,148 Gwinnett students required to meet local Gateway promotion requirements, the vast majority earned passing scores on the first try and were promoted to the next grade level. To earn promotion to the next grade, Gwinnett 4th and 7th graders must meet on-grade-level expectations on each section of the state's CRCT, while students in grades 5 and 8 must make a passing on the Georgia Writing Assessment. Of those students required to meet these promotion requirements, only 203 students did not do as well as would be expected, based on their classroom grades. For them, the school system's Assessment Review Procedure was initiated immediately and acted upon by the Gwinnett County Board of Education.

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### **THE MISSION OF GWINNETT COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

*is to pursue excellence  
in academic knowledge,  
skills, and behavior  
for each student,  
resulting in measured  
improvement against  
local, national, and  
world-class standards.*

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It is the policy of Gwinnett County Public Schools  
not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex,  
religion, national origin, age, or disability in any  
employment practice, educational program, or  
any other program, activity, or service.

2010 Winner of



<b>School Level</b>	<b>Number of Students Required to Pass</b>	<b>Students in Board's Review</b>	<b>Gateway Waived: No Summer School Recommended</b>	<b>Gateway Waived: Summer School Recommended</b>	<b>Do Not Waive Gateway: Summer School Highly Recommended</b>
<b>Grade 4</b>	11,608	165	32	79	54
<b>Grade 7</b>	11,796	31	3	12	16
<b>Grade 5</b>	11,715	0	0	0	0
<b>Grade 8</b>	12,029	7	0	3	4
<b>Total</b>	47,148	203	35	94	74

According to the Assessment Review Procedure, any student with a minimum of a C semester average in the subjects assessed in the AKS/Gateway Assessment Program qualified for an automatic review if he or she failed any part of the Gateway test. Each review was conducted by an impartial committee of teachers, principals, and central office administrators. Five such committees operated simultaneously in order to complete the reviews by a special called Board meeting in June.

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In addition to reviewing each student’s scores, the committee examined each student’s classroom performance as documented by the child’s teacher(s). Members also studied each student’s standardized test data, writing standards, other assessment information, and evidence of extenuating circumstances (illness, death in the family, etc.) provided by the parents that might have caused the student to perform below expectations on the test. The committee then recommended one of the following three actions for each student:

- waive passage of this year’s Gateway and promote to the next grade;
- waive passage of this year’s Gateway, promote to the next grade, but recommend summer school; or
- do not waive passage of this year’s Gateway, recommend summer school, and require Gateway retake and passage for promotion.

**Additional Information on Summer School and Retake Opportunities**

Elementary and middle school students required to retake an assessment for promotion have the opportunity to receive additional instruction in free summer classes that focus on area(s) of academic weakness. Qualifying students may attend Gwinnett’s Academic Summer School **June 18 – July 12**. This year’s session will not hold classes on Friday and will hold a holiday on **July 4**. Schools will communicate specifics regarding their location’s summer session directly with parents. Retests for students needing to meet state/ local promotion requirements are:

July 3	- Science Retest- Grades 4 and 7
July 5	- *Reading Retest- Grades 3, 5, and 8
July 5	- Social Studies Retest- Grades 4 and 7
July 9	- *Math Retest- Grades 5 and 8
July 9	- Writing Retest – Grades 5 and 8
July 9	- Reading Retest- Grades 4 and 7
July 10	- English/Language Arts Retest- Grades 4 and 7
July 11	- Math Retest- Grades 4 and 7

\*State promotion requirements

Students who do not pass a required retest will be retained in their current grade and students in grades 4 and 7 will be served in the transition program, where they will receive targeted instruction to help them learn the AKS they have missed while also learning the AKS for the next grade level.