The Garrett County Public Schools strive to offer to each student equal educational opportunities, while recognizing their individual strengths and needs within the general instruction of the classroom. Students desiring to gain maximum benefits from those opportunities generally will progress annually from one grade to the next. However, all students do not learn and demonstrate achievement at the same rate. Additionally, student maturity and their physical and social development rates differ for each student at any given age.

The Garrett County Public Schools and each individual school will work diligently to insure that each student is adequately demonstrating minimal achievement at their instructional level. Based on the accountability programs and curriculum standards, it is expected that academic achievement, within the parameters of each student’s ability, will be one of the most important factors in determining whether to promote or retain a student.

A decision to retain a student requires deliberate consideration by school staff due to the significant impact on the student. This consideration includes a responsibility on part of the school for providing appropriate and adequate educational programs, particularly to address those deficits associated with the lack of academic progress and to develop a Retention Management Plan, based on the Response to Intervention (RTI) model for any student at risk of retention. Principals and teachers have the responsibility to keep parents continually informed of students’ abilities, development, and progress with the curriculum. Likewise, parents must be responsible to be informed about appropriate educational programs and established expectations developed for their children, and to work with the teacher(s), school, and their child to assist the student to achieve at their instructional level.

To obtain the maximum benefits from school experiences including the promotion-retention process the school and the students’ parents/guardians must work cooperatively on behalf of the student. It is the expectation of the Garrett County Public schools that all students be successfully promoted through efforts that include high quality instruction, evidence-based intervention for academic deficits through the RTI process, opportunities for grade and credit
recovery, attendance monitoring and intervention, and other support services that include collaboration with and efforts from the student and the students’ parents/guardians.

Last Modified by Karen Brewer on November 18, 2014