

1 AN ACT concerning schools.

2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,
3 represented in the General Assembly:

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing
5 Sections 10-20.9a and 34-18.18 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/10-20.9a) (from Ch. 122, par. 10-20.9a)

7 Sec. 10-20.9a. Final Grade; Promotion.

8 (a) Teachers shall administer the approved marking
9 system or other approved means of evaluating pupil progress.
10 The teacher shall maintain the responsibility and right to
11 determine grades and other evaluations of students within the
12 grading policies of the district based upon his or her
13 professional judgment of available criteria pertinent to any
14 given subject area or activity for which he or she is
15 responsible. District policy shall provide the procedure and
16 reasons by and for which a grade may be changed; provided
17 that no grade or evaluation shall be changed without
18 notification to the teacher concerning the nature and reasons
19 for such change. If such a change is made, the person making
20 the change shall assume such responsibility for determining
21 the grade or evaluation, and shall initial such change.

22 (b) School districts shall not promote students to the
23 next higher grade level based upon age or any other social
24 reasons not related to the academic performance of the
25 students. On or before September 1, 1998, school boards
26 shall adopt and enforce a policy on promotion as they deem
27 necessary to ensure that students meet local goals and
28 objectives and can perform at the expected grade level prior
29 to promotion. Decisions to promote or retain students in any
30 classes shall be based on successful completion of the
31 curriculum, attendance, performance based on Illinois Goals

1 and Assessment Program tests, the Iowa Test of Basic Skills,
2 or other testing or any other criteria established by the
3 school board. Students determined by the local district to
4 not qualify for promotion to the next higher grade shall be
5 provided remedial assistance, which may include, but shall
6 not be limited to, a summer bridge program of no less than 90
7 hours, tutorial sessions, increased or concentrated
8 instructional time, modifications to instructional materials,
9 and retention in grade.

10 A school district may not promote a student to the next
11 higher grade level if the student has more than 10 days of
12 unexcused absences, unless the student makes up those
13 absences by attending a remedial or summer school class.

14 (Source: P.A. 89-610, eff. 8-6-96; 90-548, eff. 1-1-98.)

15 (105 ILCS 5/34-18.18)

16 Sec. 34-18.18. Student promotion and graduation.
17 Occupational-standards.

18 (a) The Board shall not require a student to meet
19 occupational standards for grade level promotion or
20 graduation unless that student is voluntarily enrolled in a
21 job training program.

22 (b) The school district may not promote a student to the
23 next higher grade level if the student has more than 10 days
24 of unexcused absences, unless the student makes up those
25 absences by attending a remedial or summer school class.

26 (Source: P.A. 91-175, eff. 1-1-00.)

27 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
28 becoming law.