

**ACCELERATION**

The curriculum and schedule of elementary, middle and high schools shall provide flexibility in placing certain students in programs or subjects normally considered above their grade level. Scheduling students into subjects above the normal grade level should be done with counseling based on evidence of ability, past scholastic achievement, and cooperation of the individual student and his parents or guardian.

When students below the ninth grade successfully complete courses offered for high school credit, the credit shall be counted toward meeting the standard units required for graduation provided the courses are equivalent in content and academic rigor as those courses offered at the secondary level. To earn a verified unit of credit for these courses, students below ninth grade level must meet the same requirements applicable to other students.

In any high school credit-bearing course taken prior to ninth grade, the parent may request the final grade be omitted from the student's transcript and the student not earn high school credit for the course. Such request shall be made in writing to the middle school principal not later than the last day of June following the completion of the student's eighth grade year.

When the best educational interests of a student suggest consideration for academic acceleration, teachers or parents may request acceleration with academic evidence. The academic evidence shall include, but not be limited to: (a) test scores substantially above grade level in relevant academic areas, (b) professional staff recommendations, and (c) parental consent.

The principals at the respective schools, in consultation with division staff, will facilitate consideration of a written request for acceleration. If approved, the principal will facilitate the development of an appropriate plan to provide support for the student as they transition to the accelerated placement.

**ADOPTED:** August 14, 2012

**LEGAL REFERENCES:** Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, § 22.1-78.

8 VAC 20-131-50.

8 VAC 20-131-110.

Regulations of the Virginia State Board of Education, Revised 1993, Educational Program for Gifted Students, VR 270-01-0002.

Virginia Board of Education Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia, 8 VAC 20-131-10 et seq.

**CROSS REFERENCE:** IKE Promotion  
IKEA Unit and/or Subject Requirements for Grade Classification