

BVPAGE Meeting
February 5, 2016
Characteristics of Gifted Discussion Additional Questions

During the course of the discussion from the February 5, 2016 meeting a question was asked, “What happens if a student fails a class?”

There are different procedures at the elementary, middle school, and high school levels. The question was answered by an elementary school principal, and middle and high school counselors. The question was asked then followed by the assumption that the teacher had already notified the student and parents of the failing grade and attempted interventions for the class. The question was: What happens if a student gets an F in a class?

1. At the elementary level:

- a. Actual letter grades, in grades 3-5, are compromised of a variety of measurements including formal assessments, homework and in-class assignments, projects, activities, participation, etc. With all these elements present and with the above supports and perhaps modifications if necessary, we tend to not need to give children an F on a grade card.
- b. Elementary schools can certainly assign an F if a student blatantly fails to return assignments, is non-cooperative, etc. It is rare and the student would most likely still be promoted to the next grade.

2. At the middle school level:

- a. The F can post on a grade card/transcript and we document what all interventions that were tried and parents are notified throughout the quarter.
- b. In middle school—the majority of classes are 9 weeks, so every quarter grades start over....hopefully, a student will not fail multiple quarters of a course. The decision to retain a student to repeat a grade would be up to the parent—we do not recommend retention in middle school.
- c. We would recommend that a student attend summer school, if they fail courses or need additional help—the middle school summer school program provides additional help with reading and math. We also have Study Island in all core subject areas, so students can continue working on their skills throughout the year and summer.

3. At the high school level:

- a. It goes on their transcript and will stay on their transcript even if they retake the class.
- b. If the class they failed is a graduation requirement, the class will need to be retaken. There are several avenues that this can be done and can be discussed with your student’s school counselor.
- c. They would not repeat a grade. The student would just need to have all graduation requirements completed by the end of their senior year in order to be able to walk at graduation in May with their class.
- d. If they are short credit to graduate with their class in May, they can enroll in a credit recovery course over the summer and if they are able to complete the required courses by September 20th, they will still get a diploma dated May of their original graduation year.
- e. The student who is short of credits can also enroll at their home high school the following year to complete the graduation requirements that they are lacking. The only stipulation is

that they must be 18 or younger at the first day of the fall semester for which they are enrolled. They would then receive a diploma dated the year after they were originally scheduled to graduate.