Did you know

“Third-graders who are reading a year or more below grade level or have been retained one or more times are particularly at risk, and when these students are from low socioeconomic backgrounds and attend school with many other poor children, their chances of eventually graduating from high school approach zero.” (McPartland & Slavin, 1990, p. 7)
What does the research show?

Neither grade retention nor social promotion will adequately address the needs of students (Jimerson, 2001; Jimerson et al., 2006); rather, specific evidence-based interventions are required to promote the cognitive and social competence of students. (Silberglitt, Jimerson, Burns, & Appleton, 2006, p. 140)

There is a cost associated with grade retention, both to students and to society: the social emotional cost as well as the financial cost and the “alternatives to grade retention have the potential to be effective in increasing academic performance, improving the mental health of students, and making schools more cost efficient.” (Ritzema & Shaw, 2012, p.11)

“Grade retention does not ameliorate the academic performance of students with borderline Intellectual functioning” (Ritzema & Shaw, 2012, p. 9)

Although studies report results favoring retained students during the repeated year, initial gains often disappear and sometimes even reverse during later years (Holmes, 1989; Jimerson, 1999; Jimerson et al., 1997; Mantzicopoulos & Marmson, 1995).” (Jimerson 2001, p. 431)
Thoughts?

Campus Practice

Retention Rates for District and Campus A

Retention Rates for District and Campus B

Why Does This Matter?

Notice change in chart scales
Retention and High-Poverty Campuses

Region Retention Rates and Poverty >80%

Why Does This Matter?
In conclusion

While RETENTION is not an area of ACCOUNTABILITY, nor is it a REGIONAL issue. It does APPEAR to be a practice used by many CAMPUSES to address student performance.  & while it is not definitively a causal factor, the DATA suggests it should be MONITORED As it has a DIRECT IMPACT on a student’s EDUCATIONAL success.

Want to Know More?

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References


