

**OFFICE OF LARRY E. REIDER  
KERN COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

**DATE:** May 17, 2007

**TO:** Alternative Education Teachers, Administrators, Transition Counselors  
and Clerical Teams

**FROM:** Janice Barricklow

**SUBJECT:** KHSD promotion policy for ninth grade students

The Kern High School District Board of Trustees approved a district-wide promotion policy for ninth-grade students. Ninth grade students will not be promoted to sophomore standing until certain requirements are met. The impact on court and community schools is expected to be minimal, especially for those serving students from other high school districts. You may begin to see transcripts with credits earned for ninth grade two years in a row. We may also see referrals to community school with ninth grade written on them, even though the student was enrolled with us the prior year as a ninth grader.

We enroll students based on information provided to us by the district. This will not change. Please continue to follow the district's lead on identification of grade level for students. We will be working with technology to minimize any potential impact this change may have with the student management system.

The KHSD policy provides four ways a student can be promoted to sophomore standing and they are outlined on the attached memo.



# KERN HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

*Janice*

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JOE THOMPSON, PH. D.  
Assistant Superintendent, Instruction

May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2007

Dear Parents:

Based on the recommendation of the Office of Instruction and Kern High School District principals, the Board of Trustees recently approved a district-wide promotion policy for ninth grade students. This policy is intended to make students and parents aware of the need for students to pass a minimum number of courses as a requirement for being promoted to sophomore standing. According to the policy, ninth grade students who do not earn a minimal number of credits or fail their English and math courses will be required to take those courses in summer school or in the fall semester of their second year. In an effort to prevent ninth grade students from falling behind in their courses and becoming at-risk of dropping out, the Kern High School District will implement a Ninth Grade Promotion Policy. The policy provides four ways a student can be promoted to sophomore standing:

- Earn 45\* credits by end of summer session after ninth grade year
- or
- Pass 10 credits of English and 10 credits of math
- or
- Score at the proficient level on California Standards Test (CST) for algebra (or another advanced math course) and CST for English
- or
- Due to special circumstances agreed to by the principal and Assistant/Associate Superintendent of Instruction

*18%*  
*additional counselor*  
*summer school*  
*- Beyond 2 yrs. at grade 9?*  
*- still want to graduate and four years*

*\*40 credits for the class of 2010; 45 credits for the class of 2011 and after.*

Parents of students who fail to meet the District's Ninth Grade Promotion Policy will be notified by the end of their student's ninth grade year. At that time, the student's counselor will meet with both the student and the parent and present a plan for remediation.

If you believe that your son or daughter does not meet the requirements of this policy, you are encouraged to contact his or her counselor before the end of this school year. This policy is effective May 8, 2007.

Sincerely,

*no requirements*

Joe Thompson, PhD  
Assistant Superintendent, Instruction