

Gifted Identification Process:

Scholars may be assessed at Paideia Academy, free of charge, during regularly scheduled testing periods. Evaluations performed by outside, qualified evaluators at the expense of parents or guardians will also be accepted based on the above qualifications.

- 1) Teacher, parent, or scholar submits Gifted Referral Form with supporting documents.
- 2) Referral is reviewed by Gifted Coordinator
 - If insufficient evidence the scholar doesn't qualify, and parent is notified
 - If sufficient evidence for giftedness, the parent is notified and is asked to sign a permission for testing.
- 3) The scholar is tested using the CogAt test during the next available session.
 - Test results indicate scholar DOES NOT qualify for Gifted Services – parent notified.
 - Test results indicate scholar DOES qualify for services - Gifted Identification form sent home and meeting scheduled to plan for services.
- 4) Gifted Services begin

Gifted Program Services

When a scholar is identified for Gifted Services through the Paideia or outside documentation:

- 1) Gifted Coordinator sets up a meeting with the classroom teacher, parent(s) and scholar to fill out the Gifted Profile Sheet and develop the Individualized Program of Study. A copy is kept in the scholar's leadership Notebook and goals are reviewed throughout the year.
- 2) Scholars begin participating in the services the team chose from the continuum of service options including some or all - enrichment programs, cluster classrooms, acceleration, curriculum compacting, special projects, leadership teams.
- 3) Learning Portfolios are shared with parents and community at Quarterly Celebrations throughout the year.

Gifted scholars are expected to maintain an ongoing Learning Portfolio in conjunction with their leadership Notebook to summarize learning and display growth over the school year. Learning Portfolios along with Leadership Notebooks will be displayed at Quarterly Celebrations. Scholars within the Gifted program are expected to continue displaying exemplary pro-social behaviors and leadership to the community.

Grades, Report Cards, Promotion and Retention

Grades and Arizona Standards Scholars must meet AZ Academic Standards in all core content areas of reading, writing, math and science by consistently scoring at least “meets standards” by the end of the grading period in all core content areas. Scholars who fall below this level will be put on academic alert. Scholars who consistently fall below “Meets Standards” in the core academic areas of reading, writing, and math may be placed on academic alert with the risk of being retained in the upcoming school year.

Grades: Kindergarten through 6th grade report cards identify four levels of scholarly performance:

ES	Exceeds Standards
MS	Meets Standards
AS	Approaches Standards
NM	Does Not Meet Standards

Report Cards

Report cards are issued at the end of every quarter and taken home by the scholars. Parents may receive an electronic version of their scholar’s report card upon to the Front Office. Report cards are always accessible via the Infinite Campus Parent Portal as well.

Academic Progress: Intervention

Each scholar is given frequent assessments to measure academic progress. Each scholar is further offered and provided academic interventions if the scholar is struggling with academic concepts.

Scholars who fail to meet the standards due to misbehavior, attendance or lack of effort may be placed on academic alert for retention. Such alert is for at least one semester. Scholars who continue to fail to meet the standards in core academics due to incomplete work, lack of effort, misbehavior, excessive tardies and/or absenteeism may be retained in the same grade the following year.

Academic Alert: NWEA MAP Test and STATE TEST Achievement and Growth

Scholars who fail to make adequate projected growth on Paideia’s Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) test may be placed on academic alert. This alert is to clearly notify parents and scholars that they may be in danger of failing the annual state assessment. If your scholar is on Achievement and Growth Alert, please contact your scholar’s teacher for a conference to discuss strategies for improvement.

Promotion Requirements

To move to the next grade, scholars must meet the following standards:

- **Attendance:** Attend school at least 11% of the days enrolled at Paideia for the current school year. Students with more than 10% attendance infractions are at risk of retention in the same grade for the coming school year. Students with 12% or greater attendance infractions are candidates for retention.
- **Meet Arizona College and Career Readiness Standards** in Reading and Math: Student academic proficiency is measured frequently throughout the year using Paideia’s Curriculum-Based-Assessment in reading and math. Students who score below 64 “on grade level” are candidates for retention.
- **NWEA MAP Achievement Test:** Paideia student academic achievement in reading, math and language use is measured in August, February and May. Students scoring below the 30th achievement percentile in any of these academic areas are candidates for retention.
 - Grades K-2 are assessed in Reading and Math.
 - Grades 3-6 are assessed Reading, Math and Language Use.
- **Arizona’s Academic Standards Assessment Grades 3-6:** Students take the Arizona state assessment in April. Those who score below level 2 are candidates for retention.

Risk of Retention:

Paideia Academies Inc. Sets high standards and believe that all students can grow and achieve in the academic content areas of reading, math and language use. Those who are not thriving in academic content areas are identified early in the academic year and provided support. Students who fail to meet the standards for promotion by the end of the school year are retained to that grade level the following year.

Any scholar failing to attain and maintain the academic standards of Paideia as described in its charter – achieve “Meets Standards” in all core academic courses – is provided with several layers of academic intervention – small group learning, peer tutoring, special education services. Intervention continues until scholar has reached acceptable levels of mastery.

- Parents of students who are identified at risk of retention are required to meet with the teacher and create a success plan to help the student overcome the deficits and promote to the next grade level.

Students who do not make satisfactory growth and/or who continue to accumulate attendance infractions will be retained in the same grade level the next year.

Retention

2015 Arizona Revised Statutes Title 15 - Education § 15-521

- *A teacher has the authority under Arizona Law to make the decision to promote or retain a pupil in grade in a common school or to pass or fail a pupil in a course in high school. Such decisions may be overturned only as provided in section 15-342, paragraph 11.*
- A parent may appeal the teacher’s decision to the Paideia Corporate Board. To overturn the teacher’s decision to retain a student, the student must demonstrate to the corporate board that he/she has mastered the state’s academic standards for the grade or course. (ARS 15-342(11)).

Third Grade Move On When Reading:

Third graders may be retained if not making adequate academic progress, attendance infractions, or behavioral concerns. Arizona law A.R.S. 15-701, also known as the “Move On When Reading” policy, requires that a student not be promoted from third grade to fourth grade if he or she scores at the “minimally proficient” level on the state’s third grade reading test. “Minimally proficient” indicates that the child is reading at a much lower level than is expected of a third-grader and needs additional help. You will be notified in the middle of the year if your scholar is at risk of being retained. If your scholar is being retained due to AZM2 scores you will be notified over the summer.

Health Office & Medical Services

Our school supports and reinforces the health and well-being of each scholar. The school nurse and Paideia staff manage scholars’ illnesses and accidents that occur at school. The nurse administers medication, treatments, keeps health records, and arranges vision and hearing screenings.

Medical Office: 602-343-3040 ext 3086

CPullam@paideiamail.com