

Adopted 5/19/04

Reviewed 4/20/17 by Board of Directors

Revised:

BLUFFVIEW MONTESSORI SCHOOL POLICY 504 RETENTION AND ADVANCEMENT

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for allowing a learner to remain or move up out of a particular developmental learning environment as indicated by readiness rather than by the month of the school year or simply by a consideration of his or her chronological age.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

Since each Montessori learning environment is designed to be responsive to the developmental needs of each individual learner, and since as a course of nature, children develop holistically according to their own internal organic clocks which relate only marginally to the traditional calendar on the wall, it makes educational sense that a child remain within a particular developmental learning environment until he or she demonstrates readiness to leave. Likewise, if a particular learner demonstrates enough all-round maturity to move up a level of learning environments, he or she should be allowed to do so regardless of the time of year. Readiness is readiness.

Guidelines:

I. Criteria

This policy requires that a request for an individual learner to remain in or move up out of a specific developmental learning environment must be supported by at least one of the following:

- A formal request submitted to the Head of School by the learner's Montessori Educator.
- A formal request submitted to the Head of School by the learner's parents.
- Documentation submitted to the Head of School by the Learning Specialist supporting the remaining or moving of the learner within the levels of learning environments.

II. Evaluation

The decision to enable the learner to remain or move within the levels of learning environments will always be made by the child's support team of parents, Montessori Educators, and Learning Specialist if child is on an I.E.P.

III. Transitions

All transitions should be made with careful planning and collaboration. The educational team and parents should consider the best possible timing of the move giving regard to such things as curriculum sequencing, field trips, and holidays.