## POLICY

## RIDGEWOOD BOARD OF EDUCATION

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## 2310 PUPIL GROUPING

The Board of Education believes that each pupil should be provided with the instruction that will best suit his/her intellectual, physical, emotional, and social capabilities. The Board authorizes the Superintendent to develop a schedule and class organization that will provide for the placement of pupils in instructional groups that will offer them the greatest educational benefit.

The grouping of pupils should be flexible and should take into consideration the age, mental ability, past academic record, emotional needs, physical maturity, and interests of each pupil.

The practice of looping pupils, i.e., maintaining a cohort of pupils with the same teacher for two consecutive years, is a practice that, under certain circumstances, is appropriate and benefits the development of children. However, in order to ensure a fair and consistent practice, the following guidelines will be followed:

- 1. The decision to loop a class with a teacher must be made prior to the first phase of the looping cycle, e.g., before deciding second grade placement in Grade 2-3 loop.
- 2. This decision will be communicated to all parents from the grade level where looping will occur to give each parent the opportunity to request or refrain from participation in the program.
- 3. In the event too many families request to be in the looping cohort, the Principal will have the authority to assign the children consistent with the current practice of eliciting feedback from the teachers.
- 4. The parent/guardian may request to opt out of the looping program in the second year in the event the parent/guardian feels it is in the best interest of the child.
- 5. If a teacher will move from one grade to the next due to personnel changes the following year, the cohort should be reviewed and mixed as is current practice to prevent a looping situation from beginning.

Adopted: 7 December 2009

