

## Acceleration Process

Whole-grade acceleration in Roselle District 12 (Board Policy 6:135 - Acceleration Placement Policy) is an educational intervention that may be appropriate for some children who demonstrate exceptionally high ability and developmental levels in all assessed areas.

Acceleration is reserved for children with exceptionally high ability and developmental levels 1 to 1½ years above their actual age in the following areas; cognitive ability, social and emotional maturity, academic ability, and gross-and fine-motor coordination. Therefore, Acceleration is not appropriate for most children and very few will qualify each year.

### *Should I consider my child for Acceleration?*

School experiences can influence children for their entire lives. Even children who show exceptional developmental levels may not need acceleration. Therefore, parents should carefully consider:

- The maturity level of the child (cooperation and collaboration, following directions, handling frustration)
- The confidence level of the child's interaction with other children and adults (social confidence, communication skills)
- The readiness level of the child for school (following routines, working independently, self-help skills)
- The attention level of the child and ability share a teacher's time with many other children
- The initiative level of the child (being a self-starter, works well alone, needs few directions and little supervision)
- The problem-solving level of the child (demonstrating analytical thinking and problem solving skills)
- The communication level of the child (use of advanced vocabulary in written and oral communication)

### *What is the process for Acceleration?*

#### STEP 1: Apply for Acceleration

Parents/guardians that would like their child to be evaluated for Acceleration must complete an Acceleration Application **by \*March 1st** of the current school year.

#### STEP 2: Pre-Evaluation Screening

Screenings are provided by a team of licensed district personnel and are designed to gather the necessary assessment information used to determine if a child is a candidate to be evaluated for Acceleration. For some students, the process will end at this juncture based on the readiness data collected by the District screening team. Only children demonstrating high ability and developmental levels 1 to 1½ years above their chronological age in all areas will be considered a candidate to be evaluated for Acceleration.

### STEP 3: Evaluation for Acceleration Candidates

The notified candidates will be given a series of assessments to determine if Acceleration is appropriate for their education. The specific date, time, and location will be given to the parent/guardian upon communication of the screening results.

An evaluation is provided by the school psychologist and/or other licensed district personnel. District 12 completes a standardized assessment of academic skills in literacy, reading, number sense, math, and verbal and non-verbal reasoning, as well as aptitude and cognitive ability. A child must perform 1 to 1½ years beyond their chronological age on all assessments to qualify for Acceleration

Based on the completed evaluation, a team of District 12 personnel will make a decision regarding the appropriate grade placement. Parents/guardians will be notified to share the results and final decision no later than two weeks after the evaluation. The decision made by the District 12 team is final.

\*Families who move into District 12 after the March 1st deadline and are interested in applying for Acceleration should contact Kelly Lynn, the Assistant Superintendent of Learning and Teaching by email at [klynn@sd12.org](mailto:klynn@sd12.org) or by phone at 630-529-2091 x1012.