

St. Johns County School District
40 Orange Street
St. Augustine FL 32084
(904) 547-7672
(904) 547-7687 (fax)



2023-2024

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Recently a request was made for your son/daughter to be considered for Whole Grade Acceleration. The purpose of this letter is to explain the process as outlined in the St. Johns County Student Progression Plan, which can be found at <https://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/cs/spp/>

Acceleration is the skipping of a grade, or part of a grade, based on exceptionally high achievement by a student. To be considered for grade level acceleration there must be evidence that the student will benefit from the instructional program at the advanced grade level and that acceleration is appropriate.

The procedure for Whole Grade Acceleration is strictly followed and completed in a developmentally appropriate timeline. It includes the following components:

- District assessments showing 80% mastery of standards in English language arts and math.
- A score of a 5 in reading and mathematics on the FAST/STAR.
- Completion of the required portions of the Iowa Acceleration Scale Booklet which include evaluation of student ability, aptitude and achievements, developmental and interpersonal factors.

Once the procedure described above is completed, the Gifted Program Specialist will review the documentation and use the preponderance of evidence to make a recommendation of whole grade acceleration. If the student is accelerated, he/she is closely monitored for the first six weeks of the new grade level placement. If acceleration is not appropriate, the student may return to the former placement.

Should you have any questions about Whole Grade Acceleration please contact Mrs. Sherri-Lee Heath, Gifted Program Specialist, at 904-547-8916.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Christine M. Stephan'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Christine Stephan
Director, Instructional Services
Elementary Education