

Academic Acceleration

State law requires all school districts to develop and use a student acceleration policy. The purpose of this law is to provide a student access to appropriately challenging learning opportunities. This law allows a district committee to place a student in a higher level than is typical, given the student's age. A district committee, which includes the child's parents, teachers and other school professionals, may accelerate a student from one grade to a higher grade. A district committee also may accelerate a student in one or more subjects to a higher grade in only those subjects.

[Millcreek – West Unity Local Schools BOE Policies # 5112, 5409, 5410, 5464]

4 Types of Acceleration [5409]:

- Early Entrance to Kindergarten [5112]
- Subject Acceleration [5410]
- Whole Grade Acceleration [5410]
- Early Graduation [5464] (*with the intent to enroll in college*)

Procedures for Early Entrance to Kindergarten or Whole Grade Acceleration are outlined in the *Iowa Acceleration Scale*. General acceleration procedures may include:

- Referral
- Testing
- Data collection
- Data review by committee
- Committee decision
- Creation and implementation of Written Acceleration Plan (WAP)
- Reporting to EMIS

Required Evaluation Committee Members

- Principal (or designee)
- Current Teacher
- Accelerated Content Teacher
- Parent or Legal Guardian
- Gifted Coordinator and/or Gifted Intervention Specialist (psychologist or guidance counselor with knowledge of acceleration practices, if gifted personnel not available)

Collecting Data

- Ability tests
- Achievement tests
- Aptitude test (2 years above grade level)
- Other data such as Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (KRA), examples of work or additional test data