

GUYANA

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

CIRCULAR NO. 8/2009

REF.NO.2/2/4

FROM: Chief Education Officer

TO: Deputy Chief Education Officers
Assistant Chief Education Officers
Coordinator, School Board Secretariat
Heads of Education Departments, Regions 1 & 10 and Georgetown
Coordinators/Directors of Education Projects
Principals of Institutions
Headteachers of Nursery, Primary and Secondary Schools, Heads
of Practical Instructional Centres

DATE: 20th May, 2010

SUBJECT: Grade Repetition/Retention and Automatic Promotion
(Amendment)

In its effort to ensure that all students experience an acceptable level of success from nursery to secondary level, the Ministry of Education has reviewed its policy on repetition, retention and automatic promotion.

No repetition shall take place at the nursery, primary nor secondary levels with effect from the new school year commencing September 2010.

The emphasis of every school must be on prevention and early intervention rather than waiting until chronic patterns of school failure and frustration become evident.

In this regard, the most competent teacher must be placed in the inception class/ grades – year one, grade one and seven.

In addition, the teaching staff must consciously teach students to master fluency in the language of instruction, particularly at the nursery level and the preparatory division

The school reports which follow the national assessments for grades 2, 4, 6 and 9 and the CSEC report must be fully utilized to conduct corrective and remedial activities with the intention of improving student performance at the respective grades.

It is therefore advised that all education departments must ensure that a strong remediation programme is implemented at each school /cluster of schools during the August vacation in Reading, English and Mathematics to correct the relevant deficiencies. In the case of the pupils who would have completed the National Grade Six Assessment such a remediation programme must commence during the August term.

It is also advised that all school administrators and officials of the respective departments of education make full use of the guidelines which are attached to this circular.

This circular takes immediate effect and amends circular # 2/2002.

Kindly bring the contents of this circular to the attention of all members of staff, Parent Teachers' Association and the student body. Your members of staff must affix their signature and the date, as requested for every circular.

.....*G. Whyte - Nedd*
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For Information
Minister of Education

- c. Permanent Secretary
Regional Executive Officers
Regions 1 – 10
Secretary, Teaching Service Commission
General Secretary, Guyana Teachers' Union
Director, NCERD
PTA, Coordinator
Chief School's Welfare Officer
Administrator, Unit of Allied Arts
Principal, CPCE, NATI, LTI, ETI, GITC, Carnegie School of Home Economics
Central Registry