



6. Student Evaluation and Communication

Academy Grade Standards and Promotion

Section 6

Cougar Mountain Academy follows an **individualized, non-graded & non-competitive** approach to learning. To assure a truly **long lasting foundation**, social promotion is not practiced. Students are expected to earn each promotion. To be promoted to a higher grade students must fulfill or surpass appropriate Cougar Mountain Academy **Minimum Grade Standards** in the traditional areas of Language Arts, Communications, Reading, Mathematics and Geometry.

Traditionally, students in all levels excel in **achieving** and **surpassing** Minimum Grade Standards set forth by the Academy. The Cougar Mountain Academy Minimum Grade Standards reflect high expectations and are considered of **superior caliber** by international standards.

Individual Progress Reports, Report Cards and Test Review

Section 6

The School Year functions on a quarter basis. **Extensive** diagnostic testing is an integral part of the curriculum and is administered in conjunction with specific grade level material. Five (5) individual evaluations, comprised of individual progress reports, report cards and test reviews, are published to parents during the school year. Each quarter covers approximately three months.

Parent - Teacher Conferences and Class Observation

Section 6

Parents are given the opportunity to conference with Teachers once a week. Each teacher has an assigned conference day. Parents are encouraged to conference with **appropriate Teacher(s)** at least twice per school year.

Parents are **welcome** and **encouraged** to observe classes. Classroom observation is limited to one person at a time. Some classrooms are equipped with one way observation windows. Classes may also be observed inside the classroom.

Parent - Headmaster Conferences

Section 6

In order to advance the individual development of each child and promote a satisfying parent/school relationship parents are asked to conference with the Headmaster during the school year. In the course of this conference parents have the opportunity to discuss matters of importance relating to the child from an **overall standpoint**.

Academy Newspaper

Section 6

Cougar Tracks is the news of Cougar Mountain Academy and is published periodically with a circulation of approximately 1000. The paper highlights student achievement, school activities, special events, articles of interest for parents and **more**.

Curriculum Plan Summary

Section 6

The Cougar Mountain Academy curriculum for the various levels is planned and coordinated on a school year basis. To **provide parents an opportunity to understand and follow** the Cougar Mountain Academy Curriculum, each teacher publishes a Curriculum Plan Summary that is on display. The purpose of this summary is to provide periodic curriculum information on a 'shorter term' basis. This summary outlines areas of importance such as immediate objectives, methodology, activities, requirements, teaching and academic aids, materials, field trips and other informative elements.

Channels of Communication

Section 6

Communication between Parent and School is emphasized and receives a great degree of attention at Cougar Mountain Academy. The extensive, well-designed channels of communication are maintained at the Academy to keep Parents informed on a continuous basis.

The **unique channels** of communication include areas such as one way observation booths for classrooms, curriculum summaries prepared by Teachers for Parents, comprehensive Parents' Handbook, periodic School Newspaper, extensive informative material about school procedures and functions, convenient teacher and management availability for conferences, a highly refined and detailed testing and reporting system reflecting student's status during the school year **and more**.

The Academy professes that only well **informed parents** can fully support optimum student performance and continuous excellence.

Cougar Mountain Academy parents are an **integral part of life** at the Academy. Parents do not play an active role in classroom teaching, however, are encouraged to become involved in a variety of exciting and creative roles. Parent volunteers are routinely involved in activities such as: social events, field trips, fundraising, holiday events, academic events, guest speakers, special demonstrations, science fair, book fair, teacher appreciation week **and more**.

