

MORRISVILLE BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION

APPROVED: APRIL 26, 2017

REVISED:

215-AR-4. LIGHT'S RETENTION SCALE Revised Edition H. Wayne Light

Name _____ Date _____
Date of Birth _____ Age: yr. _____ mo. _____ Grade _____
School _____ Teacher _____

DIRECTIONS: This scale is to be used as an aid in deciding whether or not a student should be retained. Read each item and circle the number following the most accurate statement. Interpretation of each area and the total score is found in the *Light's Retention Scale Manual*. It is of great importance to read the manual before making interpretations and conclusions. This scale is a counseling tool and should not be considered a psychometric instrument.

1. Sex of Student

- Student is a boy in kindergarten through third grade 0
- Student is a girl in kindergarten through third grade 2
- Student is a boy in fourth through twelfth grade 3
- Student is a girl in fourth through twelfth grade..... 4

COMMENTS: _____

2. Student's Age

- Student's birthday falls in the last half of the calendar year and is in the younger half of his/her present class..... 0
- Student's birthday falls in the first half of the calendar year and is in the older half of his/her present class..... 2
- Student is one (1) year older than the students in his/her present class..... 4
- Student is more than one (1) year older than the students in his/her present class..... 5

COMMENTS: _____

Score, Page 1 _____

3. Knowledge of English Language

- Student has good communication skills using the English language..... 0
- Student has limited use of the English language but is acquiring new skills quickly... 2
- Student has little or no knowledge of the English language and is not acquiring new skills..... 5

COMMENTS: _____

4. Physical Size

- Student is significantly smaller than others the same age..... 0
- Student is slightly smaller than others the same age..... 2
- Student is the same physical size as most others the same age..... 4
- Student is significantly larger than others the same age..... 5

COMMENTS: _____

5. Present Grade Placement

- Student is in kindergarten..... 0
- Student is in first grade..... 1
- Student is in second or third grade..... 2
- Student is in fourth to sixth grade..... 3
- Student is in seventh to twelfth grade..... 5

COMMENTS: _____

6. Previous Grade Retentions

- Student has never been retained and started kindergarten by age five (5)..... 0
- Student has been held out of kindergarten and started school one (1) year later than other children his/her age..... 3
- Student has had one (1) or more grade retentions..... 5

COMMENTS: _____

Score, Page 2 _____

7. Siblings

Circle only the highest number that applies.

- Student has no brothers or sisters..... 0
- Student has a brother or sister more than three (3) grade levels above or below student's present grade level..... 2
- Student has a brother or sister two (2) grade levels above or below present grade level..... 3
- Student has a brother or sister one (1) grade level above student's present grade level..... 4
- Student has a brother or sister at the same grade level or one (1) grade level below student's present grade level..... 5

COMMENTS: _____

8. Parents' School Participation

- Parents attend school conferences and are actively involved in school activities..... 0
- Parents attend teacher conferences but rarely are involved in other school activities..... 2
- Parents attend very few teacher conferences..... 3
- Parents never attend teacher conferences..... 4
- Parents never attend teacher conferences and are not supportive of the school staff... 5

COMMENTS: _____

9. Experiential Background

- Student comes from a background that offers almost no opportunity for social or cultural stimulation..... 0
- Student has minimal experience with the community and has few previous experiences in nonschool activities..... 3
- Student has had many enrichment experiences (i.e., summer camp, foreign travel, church groups, scouts, etc.)..... 4

COMMENTS: _____

Score, Page 3 _____

10. Transiency

Student has attended one (1) school since beginning kindergarten.....	0
Student has attended two (2) or three (3) schools in the past three (3) years.....	3
Student has attended four (4) to six (6) schools in the past three (3) years.....	4
Student has attended seven (7) or more schools in the past three (3) years.....	5

COMMENTS: _____

11. School Attendance

Student misses more than 25 days of school in nine (9) months.....	0
Student misses 11 to 24 days of school in nine (9) months.....	2
Student misses 3 to 10 days of school in nine (9) months.....	3
Student misses fewer than 3 days of school in nine (9) months.....	4

COMMENTS: _____

12. Estimate of Intelligence

Student's intelligence is within the average range (16th to 84th percentile).....	0
Student's intelligence is below average (5th to 15th percentile).....	4
Student's intelligence is above average (85th to 95th percentile).....	4
Student's intelligence is significantly below average (below the 5th percentile).....	5
Student's intelligence is significantly above average (above the 95th percentile).....	5

COMMENTS: _____

13. History of Learning Disabilities

Student has been evaluated by an educational psychologist and no learning disabilities have been found.....	0
The teacher sees no evidence of a learning disability.....	2
The teacher believes the child has a learning disability.....	4
Student has been evaluated by an educational psychologist and found to have a learning disability.....	5

COMMENTS: _____

Score, Page 4 _____

14. Present Level of Academic Achievement

Student is one (1) year below grade level in all academic areas.....	0
Student is more than one (1) year below grade level in all academic areas.....	3
Student is at grade expectancy in one (1) subject area and one (1) year below grade level in all other areas.....	3
Student is at or above grade expectancy in both reading and spelling.....	4
Student is at or above grade expectancy in all academic areas.....	5

COMMENTS: _____

15. Student's Attitude about Possible Retention

Student requests retention to "learn what was missed".....	0
Student seems disinterested in whether s/he should be retained or not.....	3
Student requests retention but insists that s/he get the same teacher next year.....	3
Student agrees to retention only after parent persuasion.....	3
Student does not want retention but agrees that s/he is behind in his/her school work.....	4
After appropriate counseling by the teacher or parent, the child remains upset if the subject of retention is approached.....	5

COMMENTS: _____

16. Motivation to Complete School Tasks

Student spends at least 80% of class time working on school assignments, even though some may be too difficult.....	0
Student works on those tasks that s/he is interested in.....	1
Student is disinterested in school but will work if encouraged.....	3
Student is disinterested in school and needs one-to-one encouragement to complete assignments.....	4
Student will avoid school-related tasks (within child's academic achievement level) even when offered individual help.....	5

COMMENTS: _____

Score, Page 5 _____

17. Immature

- Student associates with children two (2) years or more younger than his/her actual age..... 0
- Student associates with children one (1) year younger than his/her actual age..... 3
- Student associates with children his/her age..... 3
- Student associates with children older than his/her age..... 4

COMMENTS: _____

18. Emotional Problems

- Student does not exhibit behavior sometimes seen in emotionally disturbed children (i.e., is not distractible, depressed, overactive, nervous, cries often, etc.)..... 0
- Student exhibits behavior sometimes seen in emotionally disturbed children (i.e., may be distractible, depressed, overactive, nervous, cries often, etc.)..... 5

COMMENTS: _____

19. History of Delinquency

- Student has no history of antisocial behavior..... 0
- Student occasionally has difficulty following school rules..... 1
- Student often has problems on the playground and in the classroom..... 3
- Student has a history of discipline problems in the classroom, playground, and community, but has not had contact with law enforcement..... 4
- Student has a history of discipline problems in the classroom, playground, and community, and has had contact with law enforcement..... 5

COMMENTS: _____

Score, Page 6 _____

TOTAL SCORE _____