Middle school students must pass a specific number of classes in order to participate in the middle school promotion ceremony. On April 19, 2011, Riverside Unified School District approved the following criteria for middle school promotion ceremony participation:

1. Beginning in 2012-13, middle school will be on a semester, rather than a trimester, calendar.

2. The 8th grade class promoting in June 2013 will be required to pass a minimum of 15 out of 18 trimester classes in 7th grade, and 10 out of 12 semester classes in 8th grade, or 50 out of 60 credits attempted, during middle school to participate in the promotion ceremony.

3. The 7th grade class promoting in June 2014 (and every 7th grade class thereafter) will be required to pass 20 classes out of the possible 24 semester classes attempted, or 100 out of 120 credits attempted over two years to participate in the promotion ceremony.

4. Passing a class is defined as earning a semester grade of ‘A, B, C, or D’.

5. Students receiving an ‘F’ semester grade will be allowed the opportunity to remain eligible for the promotion ceremony by passing the failed class with a ‘C’ or better grade the following semester.

6. A 7th grade student who earned an ‘F’ in math or language arts may remain eligible for the promotion ceremony participation by earning a proficient or advanced score on the California Standards Test (CST) in math or language arts. This option is available only to 7th graders, because CST scores are not reported by California until August.

7. Students entering a middle school after the start of the school year will be required to pass five out of six possible classes taken for the full semester (s) they attend the RUSD middle school to participate in the promotion ceremony.

8. If a student is considered in jeopardy of not participating in the promotion ceremony, an Individual Promotion Plan (IPP) may be completed by a designated school representative, student, and parent. The goal of the IPP is to identify a plan of action that will be taken by all stakeholders to assure the student’s participation in the promotion ceremony.

The purpose of the middle school promotion ceremony criteria is founded on two tenets.

RUSD seeks to:

- Motivate every middle school student to pass all classes, and prepare every middle school student for the rigor of high school, college, and career.
- Prepare every middle school student for the rigor of high school, college, and career.