

Distinctions Between Standards-Based and Standards-Referenced Educational Systems

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- ▶ System based on defined number of learning levels
- ▶ Students advance through the system based on achievement of each level
- ▶ Standards are used to guide curriculum and student progress is measured and used to determine advancement
- ▶ Students advance through system at their own pace
- ▶ Learning is the constant; time is the variable

Standards Based

- ▶ System based on traditional grade levels
- ▶ Students advance through the system at the same pace as other students of the same age
- ▶ Students will advance with varying levels of knowledge and skills
- ▶ Standards are used to guide curriculum and measure student progress
- ▶ Some promotion decisions may be made based on standards
- ▶ Time is the constant; learning is variable

Standards Referenced