

High School Grading/QPR

GRADUATING CLASSES OF 2016 THROUGH 2018:

FORMULA:

The formula to be used for grading students’ performance in the area of knowledge acquisition will be 100% as defined below:

Calculating Student Grades	
60% Assessments:	i.e. meets expectations through standards based assessments, meets expectations through summative assessments, meets expectations through teacher made test, quizzes, text driven assessment, projects curriculum based and completed with accuracy.
20% Class work:	i.e. Daily assignments completed, with accuracy, extended assignments completed on time and with accuracy, formative assessments curriculum based.
10% Disposition toward learning:	i.e. actively engages in class, participates in group, displays perseverance, integrity and social and civic expectations.
10% Homework:	i.e. assignments independently completed outside of the classroom.

GRADING: All teachers shall develop and maintain a numerical grade for all students. This is becoming increasingly necessary when students transfer from one school to another in the middle of a semester and don’t have grades to accompany their registration. Upon the District updating of classroom student rosters into Progress Book, teachers will upload all student assignment, quiz and test grades into Progress Book on a regular basis, but at a minimum of at least every three weeks. Student grades will be uploaded on a weighted average basis, whereby the teacher will assign a weight to particular types of assignments (e.g. homework, quizzes, and tests) by following the applicable Board of Education grading policy. A numerical grade indicating student performance at the time of exit from a school must be made available for the receiving high school. Teachers shall make two or more comments per student per subject for each marking period. Report cards shall be expeditiously processed and returned to the teacher as soon as practicable after submission to Central Office.

INTERIM REPORTS: Reports shall be sent home half-way through each marking period. These reports are issued to students whose academic achievement is below expected level. A copy shall be submitted to the building principal.

MAKE- UP WORK: Work missed due to absences will be completed within five (5) school days upon return to school. Exceptions may be made with administrative approval.

High School Grading/QPR, continued

GRADING SENSITIVITY: Teachers are reminded to be sensitive to students who receive poor grades and feel there is no way to improve their grade or pass the course. Teachers shall dialogue with students, guidance counselors, department heads, and administrators to seek an alternative route to improve student performance.

HOMEBOUND INSTRUCTION: All long term homebound instructors will contact the classroom teacher for material to be covered and administer quizzes and tests developed by the classroom teacher. The homebound instructor will return the test to the classroom instructor for grading. Regular reports on the status of the student's performance will be sent to the building principal at the high school the student attends.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES: Students who have not earned the required Carnegie Units for the designated rank will be ineligible to participate in extra-curricular activities. As soon as students exceed unexcused absences, in accordance with the Board of Education attendance policy, they will be immediately ineligible to participate in extra-curricular activities (all after school programs). Students who have not maintained a 1.67 GPA or higher during the marking period preceding AND during the student's participation will be ineligible to participate in extra-curricular activities. (See Student –Athlete Eligibility Checklist-High School also).

PASSING GRADE: The passing numerical grade is 65.

District-wide curriculum offerings at the high schools will consist of core academics and electives. Selected district-wide core and elective courses at the Accelerated Level will be modified to incorporate extended requirements for students to earn additional quality points.

To achieve a passing grade for the class for the year a student must have an average credit value of 1.0 for the entire year as calculated for a final grade.

Final grades will be calculated with the each Quarter worth 20% of a students' grade and the midterm exam and final exam each worth 10% of the final grade. (In half-year courses, the final exam for the course will count as 20% of the course grade).

To qualify for Summer School students need to earn a numerical grade of at least 40 for the academic year as a sum of the four quarter credit values (exam grades are not included).

A grade of "E" is given to any student that is denied credit for excessive absences.

A grade of "I" is given if the teacher determines that the student's work is incomplete. Grades of "I" can be changed by a teacher at any point during the year. Any grade of "I" that remains at the conclusion of September of the next school year will be changed to an "F".

High School Grading/QPR, continued

WEIGHTING:

1. Four Levels of Academics:

- **Level 4-Advanced** – Advanced Placement (AP) courses approved by the College Board and courses through the University of Connecticut Early College Experience (ECE) Program
- **Level 3-Accelerated-** ACE/ATOMS/ SOAR
- **Level 2-Honors-** Honors courses
- **Level 1-Academic Core** – All other courses in the core subject and elective areas

2. Quality Points:

Total Quality Points ÷ Total Number of Courses Taken = Quality Point Ratio (QPR)

Grade Range	Academic Core	Honors	ACE/ ATOMS/ SOAR	Advanced
98-100	4.33	4.68	4.87	5.05
94-97	4.00	4.32	4.49	4.66
90-93	3.67	3.96	4.12	4.27
87-89	3.33	3.60	3.75	3.89
83-86	3.00	3.24		3.50
80-82	2.67	2.88	3.00	3.11
77-79	2.33	2.52	2.62	2.72
73-76	2.00	2.16	2.25	2.33
70-72	1.67	1.80	1.87	1.94
67-69	1.33	1.44	1.50	1.55
65-66	1.00	1.08	1.13	1.17
Below 65	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

3. Quality Points Ratio (QPR): This chart has been revised using a standard multiplier (8%) to create the Accelerated and Advanced Levels. This will allow for a multiplier of 4% to be used for any Accelerated Course with extended requirements. The 4% multiplier will meet the needs of all students who are in the ACE, ATOMS, and SOAR programs as well as those students who take Accelerated Level Courses with extended requirements.

- **EXAMPLE:** An ACE, ATOMS, or SOAR student in Honors Algebra I who meets the extra course requirements would receive more quality points using the 4% multiplier.

Course Level	Student Grade	QPR	With the 4% Multiplier
Accelerated	96	4.32	4.49

To determine the rank in class, the following formula is to be used to calculate QPR:

Total Quality Points ÷ Total Number of Courses Taken = Quality Point Ratio (QPR)

High School Grading/QPR, continued

4. Carnegie Units	Meeting Times	C.U.'s Earned
Extended courses	15 periods/per week	3.0 c.u.
Extended courses	10 periods/per week	2.0 c.u.
Lab Sciences courses	6 periods/per week	1.2 c.u.
Regular courses	5 periods/per week	1.0 c.u.
Elective courses	4 periods/per week	.8 c.u.
½ year courses	5 periods/per week	.5 c.u.
½ year courses	4 periods/per week	.4 c.u.

5. Class Ranking:

A student must be in attendance in the Waterbury School System for at least 3 continuous semesters (1½ years) to be considered for all academic recognition related to class rank.

6. Honor Roll:

The designation of High Honors, First Honors, and Second Honors will be determined by the student's QPR each marking period.

Highest Honors	4.0 – 5.05 QPR.
First Honors	3.5 – 3.99 QPR.
Second Honors	3.0 – 3.49 QPR.

7. Promotion and Graduation Requirements:

A student must earn five (5) Carnegie units to be promoted to the 10th grade.

A student must earn ten (10) Carnegie units and have completed the 10th grade to be promoted to the 11th grade.

A student must earn fifteen (15) Carnegie units and have completed three (3) years of high school to be promoted to the 12th grade.

Twenty-two (22) Carnegie Units and completion of four (4) years of high school are required for graduation. All students must follow the core curriculum as outlined by the Board of Education. Further, if a student has credits withheld due to unexcused absences, in accordance with the Board of Education attendance policy, those credits are declared unearned credits.

(Note: Graduating Class is defined as a group of students who started ninth grade for the first time and are expected to graduate in four years. For example, if a student started as a freshman in 2015 then their expected graduating class would be 2019.)

High School Grading/QPR, continued

GRADUATING CLASSES OF 2019 AND BEYOND:

FORMULA:

The formula to be used for grading students’ performance in the area of knowledge acquisition will be 100% as defined below:

Calculating Student Grades	
60% Assessments:	i.e. meets expectations through standards based assessments, meets expectations through summative assessments, meets expectations through teacher made test, quizzes, text driven assessment, projects curriculum based and completed with accuracy.
20% Class work:	i.e. Daily assignments completed, with accuracy, extended assignments completed on time and with accuracy, formative assessments curriculum based.
10% Disposition toward learning:	i.e. actively engages in class, participates in group, displays perseverance, integrity and social and civic expectations.
10% Homework:	i.e. assignments independently completed outside of the classroom.

GRADING: All teachers shall develop and maintain a numerical grade for all students. This is becoming increasingly necessary when students transfer from one school to another in the middle of a semester and don’t have grades to accompany their registration. Upon the District updating of classroom student rosters into Progress Book, teachers will upload all student assignment, quiz and test grades into Progress Book on a regular basis, but at a minimum of at least every three weeks. Student grades will be uploaded on a weighted average basis, whereby the teacher will assign a weight to particular types of assignments (e.g. homework, quizzes, and tests) by following the applicable Board of Education grading policy. A numerical grade indicating student performance at the time of exit from a school must be made available for the receiving high school. Teachers shall make two or more comments per student per subject for each marking period. Report cards shall be expeditiously processed and returned to the teacher as soon as practicable after submission to Central Office.

INTERIM REPORTS: Reports shall be sent home half-way through each marking period. These reports are issued to students whose academic achievement is below expected level. A copy shall be submitted to the building principal.

MAKE- UP WORK: Work missed due to absences will be completed within five (5) school days upon return to school. Exceptions may be made with administrative approval.

High School Grading/QPR, continued

GRADING SENSITIVITY: Teachers are reminded to be sensitive to students who receive poor grades and feel there is no way to improve their grade or pass the course. Teachers shall dialogue with students, guidance counselors, department heads, and administrators to seek an alternative route to improve student performance.

HOMEBOUND INSTRUCTION: All long term homebound instructors will contact the classroom teacher for material to be covered and administer quizzes and tests developed by the classroom teacher. The homebound instructor will return the test to the classroom instructor for grading. Regular reports on the status of the student's performance will be sent to the building principal at the high school the student attends.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES: Students who have not earned the required Carnegie Units for the designated rank will be ineligible to participate in extra-curricular activities. As soon as students exceed unexcused absences, in accordance with the Board of Education attendance policy, they will be immediately ineligible to participate in extra-curricular activities (all after school programs). Students who have not maintained a 1.67 GPA or higher during the marking period preceding AND during the student's participation will be ineligible to participate in extra-curricular activities. (See Student –Athlete Eligibility Checklist-High School also).

PASSING GRADE: The passing numerical grade is 65.

District-wide curriculum offerings at the high schools will consist of core academics and electives. Selected district-wide core and elective courses at the Accelerated Level will be modified to incorporate extended requirements for students to earn additional quality points.

To achieve a passing grade for the class for the year a student must have an average credit value of 1.0 for the entire year as calculated for a final grade.

Final grades will be calculated with the each Quarter worth 20% of a students' grade and the midterm exam and final exam each worth 10% of the final grade. (In half-year courses, the final exam for the course will count as 20% of the course grade).

To qualify for Summer School students need to earn a numerical grade of 40 for the academic year as a sum of the four quarter credit values (exam grades are not included).

A grade of "E" is given to any student that is denied credit for excessive absences

A grade of "I" is given if the teacher determines that the student's work is incomplete. Grades of "I" can be changed by a teacher at any point during the year. Any grade of "I" that remains at the conclusion of September of the next school year will be changed to an "F".

GRADE WEIGHTING & CLASS RANKING: Students are provided with a non-weighted Grade Point Average and a weighted Quality Point Ranking (QPR) at the end of each academic year, excluding senior year. Final senior GPAs and QPRs will be determined after seven semesters. GPA (non-weighted) ranges from 4.33 to 0 and is an indicator of academic success; QPR (weighted) ranges from 15.5 to 0 and is an indicator of average academic rigor. In each case, the higher the numeric value, the more successful the academic performance.

High School Grading/QPR, continued

OVERALL GRADE POINT AVERAGE: An overall GPA will be calculated based on the un-weighted arithmetic average of grades in all courses, using numerical grade values as follows:

A+ = 4.33	B+ = 3.33	C+ = 2.33	D+ = 1.33
A = 4.0	B = 3.0	C = 2.0	D = 1.0
A- = 3.67	B- = 2.67	C- = 1.67	F = 0.00

$$\text{Overall GPA} = \frac{\sum(\text{Course Credit}) * (\text{Course GPA})}{\sum \text{Course Credits}}$$

QUALITY POINT RANKING (QPR)/CLASS RANK: The Waterbury Public School System believes it is necessary and important to provide differentiated quality points for the purpose of weighting its academic course offerings at the high school. The current curriculum contains a wide variety of courses at various levels of academic challenge. Students are allowed considerable choice and are encouraged to strive for academic excellence. Grade weighting encourages and reward students for selecting courses at more challenging levels of difficulty.

Quality points are the weights that are assigned to courses in order to communicate their differing academic challenge. Weights assigned to academic courses communicate the level of academic challenge inherent in each course to students and their parents; therefore, the weights assigned help students to make more appropriate course selections. Additional weights assigned to college preparatory courses recognize that more challenging courses require advanced levels of work; therefore, advanced courses have higher course weights.

A grade weighting/class ranking system shall be implemented for the high schools as follows:

Min	Max		AP/UCONN	ACE/ATOMS/SOAR		
97	100	A+	15.5	14	13	11
93	96	A	14.5	13	12	10
90	92	A-	13.5	12	11	9
87	89	B+	12.5	11	10	8
83	86	B	11.5	10	9	7
80	82	B-	10	9	8	6
77	79	C+	9	8	7	5
73	76	C	8	7	6	4
70	72	C-	7	6	5	3
67	69	D+	6	5	4	2
65	66	D	5	4	3	1
Below 65		F	0	0	0	0

All grades shall be rounded to the nearest whole number

$$\text{Overall QPR} = \frac{\sum(\text{Course Credit}) * (\text{Course QPR})}{\sum \text{Course Credits}}$$

Instruction

6146.1(h)

High School Grading/QPR, continued

HONOR ROLL: The designation of High Honors and Honors will be based on GPA each marking period.

High Honor Roll: Average of 90 or above and no individual grade below 80
Honor Roll: Average of 80-89 and no individual grade below 70

In the event that schools are unexpectedly closed under a municipal, state or federal mandate for ten (10) or more consecutive school days, and with the approval of the Board of Education, the Superintendent will provide equitable grading procedures in the best interest of all students that account for such a closure and communicate the changes in procedures. In the event of such a closure, the Superintendent's grading procedures will supersede the formulas and grading policies. These procedures will remain in effect, by decision of the Superintendent and the Board of Education, until a time deemed appropriate.

(Note: Graduating Class is defined as a group of students who started ninth grade for the first time and are expected to graduate in four years. For example, if a student started as a freshman in 2015 then their expected graduating class would be 2019.)

(cf. 6146 - High School Graduation Exit Criteria)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes
10-220g. Policy on weighted grading for honors and advanced placement classes.

Policy adopted by the Waterbury Board of Education on March 7, 2013. Revised on May 7, 2015,
October 1, 2015, May 5, 2016, December 20, 2018, and May 21, 2020