

High School Grading/QPR

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	
50% 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.
35% Classwork:	i.e. daily assignments completed, with accuracy, extended assignments completed on time and with accuracy.
10% Disposition toward learning:	i.e. actively engages in class, participates in group, displays perseverance, integrity and social and civic expectations.
5% 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 PowerSchool, teachers will upload all student assignment, quiz and test grades into PowerSchool 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.

All teachers should continue to use the full scale of 0-100 for grading purposes as it relates to assessments, classwork, disposition, homework, mid-terms, and finals.

If a student earns a final average of 0-50, that student will receive a final average of 50 for the marking period.

INTERIM REPORTS: Reports shall be sent home half-way through each marking period.

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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.

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 or greater.

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 each marking period 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). A mid-term will only cover expected learning from Q1 and Q2, while the final will only cover expected learning for Q3 and Q4.

Full-year Course

Q1	Q2	Midterm	Q3	Q4	Final
20%	20%	10%	20%	20%	10%

Half-year Course

Q1	Q2	Final
40%	40%	20%

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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: The Board of Education promotes weighted grading for more rigorous coursework. 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.

Parents/guardians and students shall be advised as to whether or not a grade from a course is weighted in the Program of Studies.

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

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

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.

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

Grade Range			Advanced AP & Post- Secondary	Accelerated ACES, ATOMS & SOAR	Honors	General
Min	Max					
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

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

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.

CONNECTICUT AUTOMATIC ADMISSIONS PROGRAM:

The Board of Education (Board), beginning with the 2022-2023 school year, and for each school year thereafter, for the purpose of qualifying a student for the Connecticut Automatic Admissions Program, will:

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1. calculate a grade point average using the standardized method established by the Board of Regents for Higher Education for each student who completes eleventh grade, and
2. determine whether such student's class rank percentile is above or below the minimum established by the Board of Regents for Higher Education.

The Board will share a student's grade point average and whether such student is above or below the minimum class rank percentile with the student, the student's parent or guardian, the Department of Education, in the form and manner prescribed by the Department, and upon the student's request, a participating institution for the purposes of applying to such participating institution under the Connecticut Automatic Admissions Program. The Board shall permit the parent of a student to have access to the student's class rank.

The Board recognizes that it is not required to publish or provide a class ranking for any student or to publish on a student's transcript the grade point average calculated pursuant to the Connecticut Automatic Admissions Program, or whether such student is above or below the minimum class rank percentile established by the Board of Regents for Higher Education pursuant to the Connecticut Automatic Admissions Program.

The Board, beginning with the 2022-2023 school year and each school year thereafter, will notify each student enrolled in his/her final year of high school, and the parent or guardian of such student, whether such student may be admitted to at least one participating institution under the Connecticut Automatic Admissions Program based on the academic threshold established by such institution.

(cf. 6146 - High School Graduation Exit Criteria)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes
10-220g. Policy on weighted grading for honors and advanced placement classes.
21-199 Section 4, An Act Concerning Various Revisions to the Education Statutes

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, May 21, 2020, December 16, 2021, and July 28, 2022