File: IKAD

## WEIGHTED GRADES

In order to encourage high school students to take academically challenging classes and also to encourage them to enroll in a full schedule of classes, the following weighting will be applied to grades in advanced classes that meet the criteria below.

## Weighted Grades/Assessment System

A = 5 B = 4 C = 3 D = 1

F = 0

## **Criteria for Weighted Grade Status**

- 1. All advanced placement (A.P.) courses at the high schools will have weighted grade status.
- 2. Students must be enrolled in five or more graded classes per semester in order to receive weighted grades.
- 3. Non-A.P. classes being considered for weighted grade status must meet the following criteria and be submitted to the Board of Education for approval:
  - a. The curriculum goes beyond the recall level to include analysis, synthesis and evaluation of the subject matter with exercises in problem solving.
  - b. Opportunity is available for individual student research and exploration of the subject with encouragement of creativity.
  - c. Instructors cover their subject matter in more depth than in regular courses.
  - d. Curriculum cannot just be more of the same or for enrichment only but must be qualitatively different.
  - e. Critical thinking should be stressed along with the skills of planning, communication and decision-making.
  - f. Productive thinking activities that encourage fluency, flexibility, originality and elaboration are included.
  - g. Creative problem solving must also be included so that the skills of fact-finding, research, solution finding, evaluation and acceptance are developed.
  - h. The written course objectives will reflect a majority of the standards mentioned above.

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Cross ref.: IKA, Grading/Reporting Systems