

GRADING SYSTEMS

Grading is considered a positive tool to indicate achievement and development in each class or subject in which a student is enrolled. The Board of Education recognizes that the classroom teacher has the primary responsibility to evaluate students and determine student grades.

The district shall use a uniform grading system. Classroom teachers shall evaluate students and assign grades according to the established system. At the high school level, grades may be weighted to reflect the degree of difficulty.

Grading shall be based upon student improvement, achievement, and participation in classroom discussions and activities. Parents/guardians shall be provided a written report card at least four (4) times a year regarding their child's progress. The use of marks and symbols will be appropriately explained.

Student progress will be made available via Parent/Student Portal throughout each marking period to inform parents of students' achievements and deficiencies. Notification will be communicated when the Portal is closed for grading purposes. Special reports may also be issued for students who are failing, in danger of failing, or whose grades have experienced a substantial negative trend.

Grading shall not be used for disciplinary purposes, i.e., reducing grade for an unexcused absence, although a lower grade can be given for failure to complete assigned work or for lack of class participation. There is a 15 point penalty for lack of class participation grade and excessive absence.

All students are expected to complete the assigned class work and homework as directed. Students are also expected to participate meaningfully in class discussions and activities in order to receive course credit. If work or tests are missed due to an excused absence, the student is expected to make up the work or test. The student and/or the student's parent(s) or guardian(s) should discuss with the student's teacher an appropriate means of making up the missed work or test. With the possible exception of absences intended by the student as a means of gaining an unfair academic advantage (e.g., to secure more time to study for a test), every effort will be made to provide students with the opportunity and assistance to make up all work or tests missed as a result of an excused absence from class.

Adopted: 02/05/2020

2nd Reading (Revised): 02/05/2020

1st Reading (Revised): 01/08/2020

Approved: 06/18/2012

2nd reading (Replacing 5124.1, 5124.2, 5124.3, 5124.5 and 6150) (Revised): 06/18/2012

1st reading (Replacing 5124.1, 5124.2, 5124.3, 5124.5 and 6150) (Revised): 06/06/2012

The professional judgment of the teacher shall be respected. Once a grade is assigned to a student by a teacher, the grade may only be changed by a district administrator after notification to the teacher of the reason for such change. Should an administrator enforce a grade change, he/she shall be prepared to report to the Superintendent of Schools and/or the Board of Education.

Cross-ref: 4316, Physical Education
 4741, Class Rank and Grade Weighting
 4750, Promotion and Retention of Students
 5100, Attendance

Ref: Education Law §§3202; 3205 et seq.

GRADING SYSTEMS REGULATION

Minimum Grade

Minimum grades are used to give struggling students incentive to bring their averages up.

At the high school level, in full-year courses, students who have a failing average below 50 for the first marking period will receive a minimum grade of 50. In semester courses, this minimum grade is used for the first or third marking periods. Parents are to be made aware that a grade of 50 may indicate major deficiencies in a specific class, as the actual average may be considerably lower.

At the middle school level, the minimum grade for all marking periods shall be 50.