

HB 2220 – (Grade reporting law)

Revised September 24, 2013

Recently the District received a letter from Rob Saxton, Asst. Education Deputy Chief for Oregon and the Oregon Department of Education. In this letter he made several corrections about what was required by the law this year. In essence it reduced the requirements for this year but would have to be installed in the future. To the credit of our dedicated staff at the middle and high school they voted to engage the work of making these positive changes now rather than patch it followed by a fix later.

HB 2220 charges school districts with two things. They are listed below, and include how FRSD is meeting the requirements of this law.

- At least one time each year, provide parents with a report indicating their student's achievement measured against Oregon State Standards at the student's grade level. **FRSD Secondary Staff (grades 6-12) will be working on the technical aspects of creating this once a year report. In 2013-2014 this report will be coming home at some point late in the school year. The focus of this report will be identifying where students are in regards to meeting, not meeting, or exceeding the standards in the various content areas.**
- The above mentioned grade must be based solely on the student's academic performance and cannot be influenced by student behavior.

Additionally, FRSD Secondary Staff will implement grading that will assess what the student is demonstrating academically separately from behavior and that process is explained in detail below:

- **On secondary report cards in 2013-2014, students will receive 2 grades at each progress report and grading period. One grade will be titled the "overall grade." It may include things that assess behavior, or other soft skills such as late work, tardies, class participation, etc. The second grade will be just the "academic" grade and will reflect only academic measures (tests, quizzes, accuracy of homework, projects, etc.).**

GENERAL STATEMENTS

The grade that goes on transcripts will be the "overall grade." How the overall grade is calculated for individual teachers and classes will change very little or not at all in 2013-2014.

The "academic only" grade will simply give parents an additional piece of information that shows parents and students what ability level students are demonstrating.

Special Education students will still have their academic grade reported in a manner that includes their modifications and accommodations, however on the annual report it may show if they are not up to grade level on state standards.

Our grading policies will remain the same in that we allow teachers some freedom to customize based on the needs of their content area. Some teachers accept late work within a specific deadline, others do not.

The purpose of these changes both at the state and district level is to give parents and others a clearer understanding of where their student is performing, both academically and as a complete student. While it is a change, we are convinced that it will indeed achieve the goals of increased clarity and provide all with a more informative report card.