

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.

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.

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.

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 is missed due to absence, the student is expected to make up the work. 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. 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 missed as a result of absence from class.

Processing and Changing Student Grades

Grades are expected to be submitted in a timely fashion to be reported to parents. Submission of grades will be open until a date set by the Principal, at which point the grading system will be closed and locked. Any submissions after that date must be accompanied by a written request. Grading systems will only be unlocked for enough time to allow the modification. Any extension to the date the system will be locked must be approved by the Building Principal.

While the professional judgment of the teacher shall be respected, it is understood that occasionally there may need to be an adjustment in grades after the term. Examples include, but are not limited to, reflecting additional assignments, correcting mistakes, or to accommodate student illnesses. Once a grade is assigned to a student by a teacher and grades close, the grade may only be changed by a district administrator after notification to the teacher of the reason for such change, or upon request of the teacher. All grade changes require supporting documentation, to be maintained in the system and in the student's record, including the name and title of the person making the request, the date of the request, and the specific reason(s) for the change.

The district's student management system will serve as a historic and official representation of the grades and credits earned. Grade changes and documentation will be filed in the student's permanent record folder.

Should an administrator enforce a grade change contrary to the teacher's assigned grade, he/she shall be prepared to report to the Superintendent and/or the Board.

There will be a limited number of personnel other than teachers who have access or permissions to enter or change grades in the system. The Superintendent is responsible for the maintaining that list.

Cross-ref: 5100, Attendance

Ref: Education Law §§3202; 3205 et seq.
Matter of Nathaniel D., 32 EDR 67 (1992)
Matter of Hegarty, 31 EDR 232 (1992)
Matter of Shepard, 31 EDR 315 (1992)
Matter of Handicapped Child, 32 EDR 83 (1992)
Matter of Ackert, 30 EDR 31 (1990)
Matter of Augustine, 30 EDR 13 (1990)
Matter of Boylan, 24 EDR 421 (1985)
Matter of Burns, 29 EDR 103 (1989)
Matter of Chipman, 10 EDR 224 (1971)
Matter of Dickershaid, 26 EDR 112 (1986)
Matter of Fitchett-Delk, 25 EDR 178 (1985)
Matter of Gibbons, 22 EDR 134 (1982)
Matter of LaViolette, 24 EDR 37 (1984)
Matter of MacWhinnie, 20 EDR 145 (1980)
Matter of McClurkin, 28 EDR 136 (1988)
Matter of Reid, 65 Misc 2d 718 (1971)
Matter of Rivers, 27 EDR 73 (1987)
Matter of Shamon, 22 EDR 428 (1983)

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