

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.

Progress reports will be made available via Parent Portal midway through each marking period to inform parents of students' achievements and deficiencies during the course of a marking period. 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.

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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**.

Final Grade Computation – Grades 7-12

For the School Year 2015-16:

The final/Regents/FLACS examination will be weighted 16% of the final course grade. Each quarter grade will be weighted 21% of the final course grade.

Full year final course grades will be computed by adding the final/Regents/FLACS examination percent value to the sum of the percent value of the four quarterly report card grades.

Semester course final grades will be computed by adding the examination grade to twice the sum of the two quarterly grades, and dividing the total by 5.

Beginning with the 2016-17 School Year:

The Regents/FLACS examination will be weighted 12% of the final course grade. Courses that culminate in a Regents or FLACS examination will have a mid-term as part of the grading process, with this examination weighted 4% of the final course grade. Each quarter grade will be weighted 21% of the final course grade.

Full year final course grades for courses that do culminate in a Regents or FLACS examination will be computed by adding the Regents/FLACS examination percent value to the percent value of the mid-term to the sum of the percent value of the four quarterly report card grades.

Courses that do not culminate in a Regents or FLACS examination will culminate in a final examination, but will not have a formal or standardized mid-term as part of the grading process. The final examination will be weighted 16% of the final course grade. Each quarter grade will be weighted 21% of the final course grade. Full year final course grades for courses that do not culminate in a Regents or FLACS exam will be computed by adding the final examination percent value to the sum of the percent value of the four quarterly report card grades.

Semester course final examinations will be weighted 16% of the final course grade. Each quarter grade will be weighted 42% of the final course grade.

Semester course final grades will be computed by adding the final examination percent value to the sum of the percent value of the two quarterly report card grades.

Exception:

- **If taken prior to course completion, the January English Regents examination will be weighted as 16% of the final course grade. No midterm examination will be administered. Under these circumstances, students will have the opportunity to retake the English Regents Examination in June with the option of using the higher examination grade in the calculation of their final course grade.**

Course Completion for Credit – Grades 9-12

A passing final course grade will be the sole determinant for the granting of credit for a course.

In grades 7 and 8, this will not apply. District promotion policies in these grades will be maintained.