

Students

GRADES/EVALUATION OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

AR 5121

Written report cards displaying students' grades in each subject or course shall be distributed to parents/guardians at the end of each grading period. Parents/guardians shall be offered an opportunity to meet with their child's teacher(s) to discuss the grades and strategies to improve their child's performance.

(cf. 6020 – Parent Involvement)

For each student in grades 9-12, the Superintendent or designee shall maintain a transcript recording the courses taken, the term that each course was taken, credits earned, final grades, and date of graduation.

Grades for Achievement K-6

In grades K-6, teachers shall use content standards based report cards to indicate the student's level of achievement. Report cards are issued each trimester to indicate the student's level of achievement.

In grades 4-6 criteria for determining grades for achievement may include but are not limited to:

1. Preparation of assignments, including accuracy, legibility and promptness
2. Contribution to classroom discussions
3. Demonstrated understanding of concepts in tests and other assessments
4. Application of skills and principles to new situations
5. Organization and presentation of written and oral reports
6. Originality and reasoning ability when working through problems

Academic achievement in grades 4-6 shall be reported each trimester and shall reflect achievement of the grade level content standards.

A	(90-100%)	Outstanding achievement of standards 4.0 grade points
B	(80-89%)	Proficient achievement of standards 3.0 grade points
C	(70-79%)	Satisfactory achievement of standards 2.0 grade points
N	(69% or below)	Minimal to non-achievement of standards 0 grade points

Grades for Achievement 7-12

Grades 7-8

In grades 7- 8, report cards are issued each semester to indicate the student's level of achievement.

In grades 7-8 criteria for determining grades for achievement may include but are not limited to:

1. Preparation of assignments, including accuracy, legibility and promptness

2. Contribution to classroom discussions
3. Demonstrated understanding of concepts in tests and other assessments
4. Application of skills and principles to new situations
5. Organization and presentation of written and oral reports
6. Originality and reasoning ability when working through problems

Academic achievement in grades 7- 8 shall be reported each semester and shall reflect course content standards.

A	(90-100%)	Outstanding achievement of standards 4.0 grade points
B	(80-89%)	Proficient achievement of standards 3.0 grade points
C	(70-79%)	Satisfactory achievement of standards 2.0 grade points
D	(60-69%)	Minimal achievement of standards 1.0 grade points
F	(0-59%)	Non-achievement of standards 0 grade points
I	Incomplete	0

Grades 9-12

Academic achievement in grades 9-12 shall be reported each semester and shall reflect students' demonstration of course content standards achievement. Teachers in grades 9-12 may, in their best professional judgment, assign plus and minus signs to grades.

A	(90-100%)	Outstanding achievement of standards 4.0 grade points
B	(80-89%)	Proficient achievement of standards 3.0 grade points
C	(70-79%)	Satisfactory achievement of standards 2.0 grade points
D	(60-69%)	Minimal achievement of standards 1.0 grade points
F	(59 and below)	Non-achievement of standards 0 grade points
I	Incomplete	0 grade points
NC	No credit	
NCA	No credit due to excessive absences	
NM	No mark	
NR	No record	
P	Pass	
W	Withdrawn	
W/F	Withdraw/Fail	

Whenever it becomes evident to a teacher that a student is in danger of failing a course, a conference shall be arranged with the student's parent/guardian or a written report will be sent to the parent/guardian by U.S. mail. (Education Code 49067)

(cf. 5123 Promotion /Acceleration/Retention)

An incomplete is given only when a student's work is not finished because of illness or other excused absence. If not made up within six weeks, the incomplete will become an *F*.

No grade of a student participating in a physical education class may be adversely affected due to the fact that the student, because of circumstances beyond his/her control, does not wear standardized physical education apparel. (Education Code 49066)

A teacher may, in his or her best professional judgment, assign grades which reflect, not completion of course work, but the student's demonstration of achievement of course content standards. Teachers are encouraged to allow for trends in the quality of student work. For example, when a student finishes a grading period doing high quality work, which requires skills acquired throughout the grading period, low grades at the beginning of the grading period need not diminish the appropriate evaluation of the student's achievement. Similarly, high grades at the beginning need not compensate for a downward trend in achievement.

Student performance in high school physical education courses shall be based upon evaluation of the student's individual progress, attainment of goals in each instructional area, tests designed to determine skill and knowledge, and physical performance tests. (5 CCR 10060)

Participation in Extra/Co-Curricular Activities (Grades 7-12)

Students in grades 7 through 12 must earn at least a 2.0 or C grade point average in the previous grading period in order to participate in extra/co-curricular activities. See Board Policy 6145. (Education Code 35160.5)

To encourage and support academic excellence, the Board requires students in grades 7-8 to earn a minimum of a 2.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale in order to participate in extra/co-curricular activities. To encourage and support academic excellence, the Board requires students in grades 9-12 to earn a minimum of a 2.0 or C grade point average on a 4.0 scale and maintain satisfactory progress toward graduation in order to participate in extra/co-curricular activities. See Board Policy 6145 .

Honor Roll (Grades 7-12)

Each secondary school shall post an Honor Roll. All courses except Pass/Fail shall be counted in computing eligibility for the Honor Roll. To qualify for the Honor Roll, a student must receive no current grade below a C and have a grade point average of 3.5 or better.

Advanced Placement/Honors Courses (Grades 9-12)

The district wishes to encourage students to take advanced placement (AP) and honors courses. AP courses are developed by the College Board and approved by the University of California system. Honors courses are developed by the district and approved by the University of California. Because of the extra work involved, the evaluation system shall be weighted to reflect the more rigorous nature of these courses. Grades received in these courses will be counted on a weighted scale. All students who take an advanced placement (AP) course are expected to take the related College Board Advanced Placement Exam to receive the weighted grade point. The advanced placement course will be noted on the student's transcript.

Following is the weighted scale for honors courses and advanced placement courses for which a student takes the related advanced placement exam:

A	=	5 grade points
B	=	4 grade points
C	=	3 grade points
D	=	1 grade point
F	=	0 grade points

Pass/Fail Grading (Grades 9-12)

With parental approval, a student may elect to earn a *Pass* or *Fail* grade instead of an A-F grade in the following courses:

1. All courses taken in the Special Education Program
2. Students shall be graded Pass/Fail for classes in which they serve as student aides.

Students who receive a *Pass* grade will acquire the appropriate semester units of credit for the course, and the grade will not be counted in determining class rank or grade point average and co-curricular eligibility. Students who receive a *Fail* grade will not receive credit for taking the course.

Repeated Classes (Grades 9-12)

With the prior approval of the principal or designee, a student may repeat a course in order to raise his/her grade. The student shall receive credit only for taking the course once.

Both grades received will be entered on the student's transcript with the highest grade receiving the credit. It should be noted that the University of California/California State University system will not accept repeat course grades if the student initially received a C or better. (California Code of Regulations Title V, section 58161)

Withdrawal from Classes (Grades 9-12)

A student who submits a *Request for Withdrawal Form* during the first two weeks of the semester may do so without any entry on his/her permanent record card. A student who drops a course after the first two weeks of the semester shall receive a W/F grade on

his/her permanent record, unless otherwise decided by the principal or designee because of extenuating circumstances.

Unexcused Absences (Grades 9-12)

The student and parent/guardian shall be notified and informed of the district's policy regarding excessive unexcused absences. The student and parent/guardian shall have a reasonable opportunity to explain the absence. (Education Code 49067)

If the absence is not verified as excusable within three days, it shall be recorded as unexcused. The person receiving any explanation of the absence by the parent/guardian shall make a record of this explanation and the date when it was given.

Students with excessive unexcused absences (eight absences per semester grading period) may be given a failing grade and not receive credit for the course(s). Teachers may, in their best professional judgment, assign a failing grade to a student with excessive unexcused absences. The student or the student's parent or guardian shall be provided with an opportunity to explain the absences. The District shall notify the student's parent or guardian of this unexcused absence policy through an annual notice or through the teacher.

If a student receives a failing grade because of unexcused absences, school records shall specify that the grade was given because of excessive unexcused absences. (Education Code 49067)

Grades for a student in foster care shall not be lowered if the student is absent from school due to either of the following circumstances: (Education Code 49069.5)

1. A decision by a court or placement agency to change the student's placement, in which case the student's grades and credits shall be calculated as of the date the student left school
2. A verified court appearance or related court-ordered activity

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