

GRADES/EVALUATION OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

The Superintendent or designee shall inform teachers of the district's policy regarding grading, including expectations that grades shall be based on factors that directly measure students' knowledge and skills in the content area and shall not include nonacademic factors.

Report cards displaying students' grades in each subject or course shall be distributed to parents/guardians at the end of each grading period. Upon request 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.

Whenever it becomes evident to a teacher that a student is in danger of failing a course, the teacher shall arrange a conference with the student's parent/guardian or send the parent/guardian a written report. (Education Code 49067)

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

For grades K-5, students' level of progress for each grading period shall be reported as follows:

- 4 Exceeding Standard
- 3 Meeting Standard
- 2 Approaching Standard
- 1 Not Yet Meeting Standard
- X Not Assessed

For grades 6-12, grades for academic performance shall be reported for each grading period as follows:

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------|------------------|
| A | Mastered Standard | 4.0 grade points |
| B | Exceeds Standard | 3.0 grade points |
| C | Meets Standard | 2.0 grade points |
| D | Approaching Standard | 1.0 grade points |
| F | Not Yet Meeting Standard | 0 grade points |
| I | Incomplete | 0 grade points |

An Incomplete shall be given only when a student's work is not finished by the end of the grading period because of illness or other excused absence. If not made up within six weeks, the Incomplete shall become an F.

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Because of the more rigorous nature of Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, Dual Enrollment, and MSJC Annex concurrent postsecondary courses, students receiving a grade of A, B, or C in those courses shall receive extra grade weighting as follows:

A	Mastered Standard	5.0 grade points
B	Exceeds Standard	4.0 grade points
C	Meets Standard	3.0 grade points

Grades for Physical Education

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)

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)

Grades for College Courses

When the district has approved a student to receive district credit for coursework completed at a community college or four-year college, he/she shall receive the same letter grade as is granted by the college.

Grades for Citizenship and Work Habits

Any grades assigned for citizenship or work habits, such as effort or study skills, shall be reported as follows:

K - 5

O	Outstanding
M	Meets Expectation
A	Approaching Expectation
N	Needs Improvement
X	Not Assessed

6 - 12

O	Outstanding
S	Satisfactory
N	Needs Improvement
U	Unsatisfactory

GRADES/EVALUATION OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT (continued)**Pass/Fail Grading**

The Superintendent or designee may identify courses or programs for which students may, with parent/guardian permission, elect to earn a Pass or Fail grade instead of a letter grade.

Students shall be graded Pass/Fail for classes in which they serve as student aides unless predetermined goals and objectives related to specific subject knowledge are on file and have been approved by the principal or designee.

Students who receive a Pass grade shall acquire the appropriate semester units of credit for the course. The grade shall not be counted in determining class rank, honors list, or membership in the California Scholarship Federation. Students who receive a Fail grade shall not receive credit for taking the course.

Peer Grading

At their discretion, teachers may use peer grading of student tests, papers, and assignments as appropriate to reinforce lessons.

Repeating Classes

With the approval of the principal or designee, a student may repeat a course in order to raise his/her grade. Both grades received shall be entered on the student's transcript, but the student shall receive credit only once for taking the course. The highest grade received shall be used in determining the student's overall grade point average (GPA).

Withdrawal from Classes

A student who drops a course during the first six weeks of the grading period may do so without any entry on his/her permanent record card. A student who drops a course after the first six weeks of the grading period shall receive an F grade on his/her permanent record, unless otherwise decided by the principal or designee because of extenuating circumstances.

Effect of Absences on Grades

When an unexcused absence occurs, 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)

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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)

Grade Point Average

The Superintendent or designee shall calculate each student's GPA using the grade point assigned to each letter grade in accordance with the scale described in the section "Grades for Academic Performance" above. The grade points for all applicable coursework shall be totaled and divided by the number of courses completed. Pass/Fail grades shall not be included in the determination of a student's GPA.

When plus and minus designations are added to letter grades, they shall not be considered in determining GPA.

Each academic year, the Superintendent or designee shall provide to the Student Aid Commission the GPA of all district students in grade 12, except for students who have opted out or are permitted by the rules of the Student Aid Commission to provide test scores in lieu of the GPA. (Education Code 69432.9)

Policy Reference Disclaimer:

These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State References

5 CCR 10060
5 CCR 30008

Ed. Code 48070
Ed. Code 48205
Ed. Code 48800-48802
Ed. Code 48904-48904.3
Ed. Code 49066
Ed. Code 49067
Ed. Code 49069.5
Ed. Code 51242

Ed. Code 69432.9
Ed. Code 76000-76002

Description

Criteria for high school physical education programs
Definition of high school grade point average for student aid eligibility
Promotion and retention
Excused absences
Enrollment of gifted students in community college
Withholding grades, diplomas, or transcripts
Grades; finalization; physical education class
Mandated regulations regarding student's achievement
Students in foster care, grades and credits
Exemption from physical education based on participation in interscholastic athletics
Cal Grant program; notification of grade point average
Enrollment in community college

Federal References

20 USC 1232g
34 CFR 99.1-99.67

Description

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974
Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

GRADES/EVALUATION OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT (continued)**Management Resources**

Court Decision	Johnson v. Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Board of Education, (1986) 179 Cal.App.3d 593
Court Decision	Las Virgenes Educators Association v. Las Virgenes Unified School District, (2001) 86 Cal.App.4th 1
Court Decision	Owasso Independent School District v. Falvo, (2002) 534 U.S. 426
Court Decision	Swany v. San Ramon Valley Unified School District, (1989) 720 F.Supp. 764

Cross References

	Description
0470	COVID-19 Mitigation Plan
4127	Temporary Athletic Team Coaches
4131	Staff Development
4222	Teacher Aides/Paraprofessionals
4227	Temporary Athletic Team Coaches
4231	Staff Development
4327	Temporary Athletic Team Coaches
5020	Parent Rights And Responsibilities
5113	Absences And Excuses
5113.1	Chronic Absence And Truancy
5113.2	Work Permits
5123	Promotion/Acceleration/Retention
5125	Student Records
5125.2	Withholding Grades, Diploma Or Transcripts
5125.3	Challenging Student Records
5126	Awards For Achievement
5127	Graduation Ceremonies And Activities
5132	Dress And Grooming
6011	Academic Standards
6020	Parent Involvement
6141.2	Recognition Of Religious Beliefs And Customs
6141.5	Advanced Placement
6142.4	Service Learning/Community Service Classes
6142.7	Physical Education And Activity
6143	Courses Of Study
6144	Controversial Issues
6145	Extracurricular And Cocurricular Activities
6145.2	Athletic Competition
6146.11	Alternative Credits Toward Graduation
6146.3	Reciprocity Of Academic Credit
6146.5	Elementary/Middle School Graduation Requirements
6152	Class Assignment
6152.1	Placement In Mathematics Courses
6154	Homework/Makeup Work
6155	Challenging Courses By Examination
6158	Independent Study
6162.5	Student Assessment
6172	Gifted And Talented Student Program
6173.1	Education For Foster Youth
6179	Supplemental Instruction
6184	Continuation Education
9150	Student Board Members

GRADES/EVALUATION OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT (continued)

Regulation
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MURRIETA VALLEY USD
Murrieta, California