

AR 5121 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. 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.

The District report card is part of a multifaceted reporting system designed to provide timely information on student progress and achievement. In addition to the progress reports and report cards, teacher gradebooks are accessible to parents online via the parent portal, with updates to the gradebook occurring at a minimum, every two weeks.

The report card presents grades earned in required subject areas as well as other measures of student progress. It will also report on support areas, special programs, intervention services, and attendance. Report cards must be completed for any student enrolled 20 or more school days in the trimester currently being evaluated.

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)

Grades for Academic Performance

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.

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)

Marks for Progress toward Standard and Effort

Marks for Progress Toward Standard		Marks for Effort	
	<u>Grades K-5</u>		<u>Grades 1-5</u>
+ =	Strength	+ =	Strength
/ =	Satisfactory	/ =	Satisfactory
- =	Needs help	- =	Needs help
NA =	Not Assessed for a Mark		

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Grades for Support Areas and Citizenship/Work Habits

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

Transitional Kindergarten	Grade K		Grades 1-5		Grades 6-8	
Progress Indicators						
Not applicable	+ =	Strength	+ =	Strength	Not applicable	
	/ =	Satisfactory	/ =	Satisfactory		
	- =	Needs help	- =	Needs help		
	NA =	Not Assessed for a Mark	NA =	Not Assessed for a Mark		
Overall Marks						
Not applicable	+ =	Strength	O =	Outstanding	O =	Outstanding
	/ =	Satisfactory	G =	Good	S =	Satisfactory
	- =	Needs help	S =	Satisfactory	N =	Needs Improvement
	NA =	Not Assessed for a Mark	N =	Needs Improvement	U =	Unsatisfactory
			NA =	Not Assessed for a Mark		

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 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 Review

At their discretion and with sensitivity, teachers may use peer editing and review of student papers and assignments as appropriate to reinforce lessons. Teachers must appropriately maintain confidentiality of student work and grades. Students are not to enter grades or have access to a teacher’s grade book system (electronic or manual).

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Effect of Absences on Grades

Teachers who choose to withhold class credit because of excessive unexcused absences shall so inform students and parents/guardians of such a possibility at the beginning of the school year or semester. When a student reaches the number of unexcused absences defined as excessive in Board policy, the student and parent/guardian shall again be notified of the district's policy regarding excessive unexcused absences.

The student and parent/guardian shall have a reasonable opportunity to explain the absences. (Education Code 49067)

If a student receives a failing grade because of excessive unexcused absences, the student's record shall specify that the grade was assigned because of excessive unexcused absences. (Education Code 49067)

Grades for a student in foster care shall not be lowered if the student is absent for any reason specified in Education Code 49069.5.

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 below. 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.

GPA Weight

A =	4.0 grade points
B =	3.0 grade points
C =	2.0 grade points
D =	1.0 grade points
F =	0.0 grade points

Board Approved:

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October 7, 2004

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