

West Contra Costa USD

Board Policy

Grades/Evaluation Of Student Achievement

BP 5121

Students

The Governing Board believes that grades serve a valuable instructional purpose by helping students and parents/guardians identify the student's areas of strength and those areas needing improvement. Parents/guardians and students have the right to receive course grades that represent an accurate evaluation of the student's achievement.

The teacher of each course shall determine the student's grade. The grade assigned by the teacher shall not be changed by the Board or the Superintendent except as provided by law, Board policy and administrative regulation. (Education Code 49066)

Teachers shall evaluate a student's work in relation to standards which apply to all students at his/her grade level. The Superintendent or designee shall establish and regularly evaluate a uniform grading system, and principals shall ensure that student grades conform to this system. Teachers shall inform students and parents/guardians how student achievement will bÃ

participation/**discussion**, homework, tests, **projects**, and portfolios **as appropriate**.
Other elements that are not a direct measure of knowledge and understanding of course content, such as attendance, effort, student conduct, and work habits, shall not be factored into the academic grade but may be reported separately.

When reporting student grades to parents/guardians, teachers may add narrative descriptions, observational notes and/or samples of classroom work in order to better describe student progress in specific skills and subcategories of achievement.

Students in grades K-3 shall receive narrative evaluations rather than letter grades in order to give parents/guardians more information about their children's developmental levels and also promote students' self-esteem and experiences of success.

In the event that extended school closures result in a substantial interruption and/or alternative methods of instruction, students in the elementary grades shall receive

a level equivalent to C- or higher shall receive “Pass” and shall receive A-G credit. Students who complete work at a level that is lower than a C- shall receive “No Mark” and will receive credit toward high school graduation but not toward A-G.

Unexcused Absences

If a student misses class without an excuse and does not subsequently turn in homework, take a test or fulfill another class requirement which he/she missed, the teacher may lower the student's grade for nonperformance.

Whenever a student misses an assignment or assessment due to either an excused or unexcused absence, he/she shall be given full credit for subsequent satisfactory completion of the assignment or assessment.

Grade Point Average (GPA)

The Superintendent or designee shall recommend to the Board the methodology to be used in calculating students' grade point averages (**GPA**), including the courses to be included within the GPA and whether extra grade weighting shall be applied to Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, honors, and/or concurrent postsecondary courses.

The Superintendent or designee shall also recommend to the Board whether extra grade weighting will be assigned for honors courses that are substantially similar in depth, breadth and rigor to an Advanced Placement course, an entry-level college course or a community college level course.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

-41508 Pupil Retention Block Grant

48070 Promotion and retention

48205 Excused absences

48800-48802 Enrollment of gifted students in community college

48904-48904.3 Withholding grades, diplomas, or transcripts

49066 Grades; finalization; physical education class

49067 Mandated regulations regarding student's achievement

49069.5 Students in foster care, grades and credits

51242 Exemption from physical education based on participation in interscholastic

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