



**Diamond Lake School District 76**  
**Embrace Empower Excel** Each Child Each Day

**TO:** D76 Board of Education

**FROM:** Dr. Peter Cunningham, Director of Instruction and Personnel

**SUBJECT:** West Oak Middle School Standards-Based Report Card Information for the BOE

**DATE:** August 20, 2024

The purpose of this communication is to update the Board of Education regarding the implementation of Standards-Based Grading (SBG) and Standards-Based Report Cards (SBRC) at West Oak Middle School.

Before describing the middle school system, it is important to note that we will be adding half-steps (i.e. 2.5, 3.5) to the SBRC for all grades next year. This allows teachers to capture progress students are making toward proficiency in a Standard. Additionally, all proficiency scales for all subjects in all grade levels, which explain the criteria for a student earning a 2, 3 or 4 score for any Standard, are currently being added to our [website](#) for student and parent reference.

The 24-25 school year will be the first year of implementation for West Oak Middle School. We recognize that students are beginning the transition to secondary education. With this in mind, students will have a letter grade on their report cards that corresponds to the average of each of their Standard Scores for each standard. For example, if a student earns a 3, 4, 2.5, and 3 for the four different Standards in their Math class, the teacher will average the four scores. The average of the four scores in the example is 3.125. Using the scale below, the student would earn an 'A' for the Trimester in Math.

**West Oak Middle School Standards-Based Grade Scale for Report Cards:**

Grade	Description	Cut Off	Grade Value	Letter Grade
4	Exceeds	100	100	A
3.5-3.99	Exceeds	95	99	A
3.0-3.49	Meets	90	94	A
2.5-2.99	Meets	80	89	B
2.0-2.49	Approaches	70	79	C
1.5-1.99	Approaches	60	69	D
1.0-1.49	Not Yet	35	59	F
NE	Not Evaluated	0	0	NE

**IMPORTANT!:** Due to the limited capabilities of PowerSchool, the letter grade will be updated by the teacher at the midpoint and near the end of the Trimester. That means the letter grade may not appear until the teacher updates it because no assignment will be given a letter-grade. This capability in PowerSchool cannot



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be fixed at this time. Teachers will conference with students and set goals for the grade they can earn at the end of the trimester throughout the Trimester. Additionally, students can do the math at any point to calculate their current grade. The Standard Score for every Standard is averaged by default on the past three scores a student earns. [Honor Roll criteria](#) will remain the same.

Not all grades in the gradebook will be assigned a Standard. There will be classwork and homework that will not be given a Standard-Score. The assignments are still important opportunities for students to practice a skill, and are still mandatory. Honor Roll is tied to work completion scores in the Wolfpack Qualities.

The district has posted information about SBRC at the middle school on our [website](#), and teachers will be explaining the concept at curriculum night. Mr. Hansen has a video tutorial about PowerSchool, and we will create a short video explaining how SBRC will look in the PowerSchool parent portal. Mr. Pedersen will continue to provide information to families about Standards-Based grading in his weekly communications.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you.