## ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT: GRADING

EIA (REGULATION)

#### **COURSE CREDIT**

Course credit in all curriculum areas, grades nine through twelve, will be granted in half-credit increments based on the following guidelines:

- 1. If the average of the two semesters is greater than or equal to 70, then one credit will be awarded.
- 2. If the average of the two semesters is less than 70, then ½ credit will be awarded for the semester passed.
- 3. If a student fails both semesters and attends summer school, the summer school grade will be averaged with the appropriate corresponding semester grade. Full credit will be awarded if this average is equal to or greater than 70. To be eligible for grade averaging, courses must be completed within the academic school year or summer school sessions following that school year.

Examples of possible grade combinations and the credit that would be awarded when both semesters are averaged together are:

Semester 1	Semester 2	<u>Average</u>	<u>Credit</u>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1
Pass	Fail	Pass	1
Fail	Pass	Pass	1
Pass	Fail	Fail	1/2
Fail	Pass	Fail	1/2
Fail	Fail	Fail	0

GRADE COMPUTATION Credit for a full year course in seventh and/or eighth grade will be determined by the average of the two semesters. Grade determinations for one-semester courses will be in accordance with the guidelines set forth in this regulation.

SIX WEEKS COMPUTATION (SECONDARY) To determine the six weeks average, teachers will average all grades earned by the student in whatever percentages (unit tests vs. daily work) they desire. To avoid premature and irreversible failure in the first six weeks period, no failing grade lower than 55 should be awarded for the first six weeks grade in a course. The second and third six weeks grades and the semester examination grade will be recorded as earned by the student. A minimum of six grades per six weeks grading period shall be recorded in grade books used in computing grades.

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SEMESTER GRADE COMPUTATION (SECONDARY) For any specific semester, the three six-weeks averages will count <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> or 75% and the final examination <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> or 25% of the semester's grade.

Teachers will average the three six-weeks grades with the semester exam in order to arrive at the same semester average. The computer will automatically figure the semester average and award credit accordingly. This does not remove the responsibility of teachers to record the semester average in their grade books.

PROGRESS REPORTS TO PARENTS Parents will receive a written progress report of their child's academic performance at the end of each three-weeks grade evaluation period if the child is in danger of failing. The progress reports will be given to the students at prescribed dates set by the District to take home to their parents. The reports are to be signed by the parents and returned to the school. If the report is not signed and returned, a copy will be mailed to the parent.

NEED FOR PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCE If a student receives an unsatisfactory grade in any class or subject at the end of a grade evaluation period, a progress report will be sent requesting a parent/teacher conference. The progress report will contain the daily conference time of the teacher in order to schedule the conference. Additional times may be suggested for the parents' convenience.

PERMANENT GRADES (SECONDARY)

"Trailer" courses will be used sparingly when rescheduling students who fail since the student may take the course in summer school or wait until the next school year. Also, courses failed will not be dropped from the student's record. Permanent records will reflect all course work that the student has taken during his secondary school years.

PASS/FAIL OPTION

Courses which a student takes in grade nine through twelve in addition to the total number of units required for graduation, may, at the student's option, be taken on a pass/fail basis. The student must declare written intent to take such a course on a pass/fail basis by the third day the student is enrolled in the class. The written request must be submitted to the counselor who will verify eligibility for the pass/fail option. These courses shall be excluded in the computation of grade-point averages and a numerical grade will not be recorded on the student's transcript. Students who have a grade average of 70 or above in such courses, however, will be awarded credit.

**CHANGING GRADES** 

Grade changes are permitted when errors in computation or making a report card (bubble sheet) occur or the teacher's grading procedure violated either local policy, state law, or SBOE rule and the student would have received a passing grade if the correct procedure had been followed. Grade changes for failing grades for any other reason are prohibited.

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#### INCOMPLETE GRADES

Students who have not completed the required work prior to the end of the six weeks due to an excused absence or illness or other acceptable reason should not be given a failing grade. Instead, they should receive an "incomplete" ("I" on the bubble sheet) and be allowed a reasonable time to complete the work.

Under no circumstances will "incomplete" grades be given as permanent grades. The building principal or designee will change an incomplete grade within a reasonable length of time (preferably five days after the student returns to school) to a numeric grade. All work not completed shall be counted as a zero in averaging the grades.

LATE WORK

If a teacher accepts "late work" from the previous six weeks, reaverages the student's six weeks grade, and finds it to be passing, the student remains ineligible. The changed six weeks grade may be appropriately averaged with other grades in determining the semester average.

**ELIGIBILITY** 

Students in <u>all an</u> advanced placement, <u>concurrent enrollment</u>, <u>gifted/talented</u>, <u>and or</u> international baccalaureate courses <u>or in an honors or dual credit course in English</u>, <u>language arts</u>, <u>mathematics</u>, <u>science</u>, <u>social studies</u>, <u>economics or a language other than English</u>, <u>in which they are currently enrolled</u> are eligible for participation in extracurricular and/or UIL activities <u>with a grade of 65 or above</u>. A failing grade in the courses listed above does not suspend eligibility in extracurricular and or UIL activities.

The evaluation periods for eligibility are as follows:

- 1. Grades of all students shall be checked at the end of the first six weeks of school.
- 2. Grades of ineligible students will be checked on a three week frequency following the first six weeks of school.
- 3. Students eligibility status becomes effective seven days after the end of the grade evaluation period. The same rule applies if an incomplete "I" is on record. Students with an incomplete regain their eligibility when the "I" is replaced with a passing grade in the records office or the appropriate school personnel notified.

GRADE CONVERSIONS When there is a need to convert alpha grades to numeric values, the following scale will be used:

A + = 98	A = 95	A = 92
B + = 88	B = 85	$B_{-} = 82$
C+=78	C = 75	C = 72
D + = 68	D = 65	D = 62
D1 = 00	<b>D</b> = 03	F = 55

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### INCOMING TRANSCRIPTS

Transcripts or report cards from out-of-district school should be interpreted as follows:

- 1. Any grading scale included as a part of the transcript or report card, or as an explanation, will be accepted exactly as the sending school intended, whether in alpha or numeric form.
- 2. Out-of-state transcripts or report cards with grades less 70 should be verified as passing with the sending school.
- 3. When incoming transcripts carry grades with no interpretive scale and/or grade, then the grade conversion scale of the District will be used for awarding credit.

# ACHIEVEMENT STANDARDS

In assessing grades, the teacher will keep in mind these standards:

- 1. Preparation
  - a. Diligent daily preparation
  - b. Promptness and regularity in handling assigned work
  - c. Accuracy, neatness, legibility
  - d. Acceptable form, correctness of spelling and expression, and thoroughness in all work
  - e. Book and class materials for daily work always in readiness
- 2. Knowledge of subject
  - a. Consistent contributions to class discussion
  - b. Ability to apply facts and principles pertinent to the subject
  - c. Ability to maintain a high degree of quality and accuracy on all written work
  - d. Ability to develop concepts, ideas and form generalizations
- 3. General
  - a. Ability to maintain a high degree of self-discipline
  - b. Ability to analyze and critically evaluate materials and information
  - c. Ability to work in a team setting and independently
  - d. Ability to demonstrate academic integrity and honesty
  - e. Proper and correct use of the English language in both oral and written communication

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#### UNSATISFACTORY ACHIEVEMENT

Unsatisfactory achievement is earned by students who by reason of inability or weak foundation, habitual neglect, failure to grasp (0-69) subject matter, or excessive absences and in the judgment of the teacher should not receive a passing grade.

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