

Instruction

Assignment of Grades

Purpose

The Gadsden Independent School District requires that students be assessed frequently and student progress be reported to students and parents on a regular basis.

Participants

School administration and teachers.

Process

Assignment of secondary grades will be determined as follows:

1. **Grades will reflect academic performance skill levels. Grades will absolutely not be used for disciplinary purposes.**
2. The weight of various assignments will be left to the discretion of the teacher. However, the weighing of assignments must be logical, fair, and described in the classroom procedures so that the students are aware of the system being used.
3. The teacher will assess all students and record grades numerically. No grades will be represented by dots, dashes, stars, or other non-numerical symbols.
4. Grades will be determined on the basis of total possible points for the grading period. Curving of grades will not be permitted.
5. Each semester of the school year will have two nine-week periods. Students' progress will be assessed at least one time each week and recorded in the grade book. A percentage grade for each period will be calculated numerically by averaging all grades.
6. Parents will be notified of student progress at regular intervals prior to the end of a semester.
7. GPA will be determined by the total grade points earned. Grade points will be calculated based upon the credited courses. In the event that a student repeats a class, the second grade earned will be calculated into the GPA. The initial grade will remain on the transcript, but will not be included in the GPA calculation.

Assignment of elementary grades will be determined as follows:

1. **Grades will reflect academic performance levels. Grades will absolutely not be used for disciplinary purposes.**
2. The weight of various assignments will be left to the discretion of the teacher. However, the weighing of assignments must be logical, fair, and described in the classroom procedures so that the students are aware of the system being used.
3. The teacher will assess all students and record grades.
4. Each semester of the school year will have two nine-week periods. Students' progress will be assessed at least one time each week per subject and recorded in the grade book.

- Parents will be notified of student progress at regular intervals prior to the end of a semester.

When Reporting Grades:

- In kindergarten, use four (4) as mastery, three (3) shows improvement, two (2) needs help, one (1) not observed at this time.
- In first and second grade, use S for satisfactory, N for needs improvement, U for unsatisfactory.
- In grades three through twelve a solely numeric system of grades (50-100) will be entered by teachers onto an electronic format and will be reported to parents by an electronically produced report card.
- No alpha (letter) grades will be used.
- The zero to 100 numeric range previously used to assign grades is modified to a 50-100 numeric range. This is in line with a previous statement included earlier in this policy **“Grades will reflect academic performance skill levels. Grades will absolutely not be used for disciplinary purposes.”**
- In grades three through twelve the following will be used.

Grades 3-8	Regular Courses 9-12	Honors Courses 9-12
90-100 equivalent to A	90-100 equivalent to A	90-100 equivalent to A
80-89 equivalent to B	80-89 equivalent to B	80-89 equivalent to B
70-79 equivalent to C	70-79 equivalent to C	70-79 equivalent to C
60-69 equivalent to D	60-69 equivalent to D	60-69 equivalent to D
50-59 equivalent to F	50-59 equivalent to F	50-59 equivalent to F

- The following point system will be used if alpha grades must be converted for transcripts.

Grades 3-8	Regular Courses 9-12	Honors & AP Courses 9-12
4 90-100	4 90-100	5 90-100
3 80-89	3 80-89	4 80-89
2 70-79	2 79-79	3 70-79
1 60-69	1 60-69	1 60-69
0 50-59	0 50-59	0 50-59

- Beginning with the Grade 9 class of 2004-2005 the following additional points will be awarded for Honors & AP Courses in Grades 9-12.

Honors Courses 9-12	AP Courses 9-12
90-100 + 5 points	90-100 + 5 points
80-89 + 5 points	80-89 + 5 points
70-79 + 5 points	70-79 + 5 points
60-59 No extra points	60-69 No extra points
50-59 No extra points	50-59 No extra points

Timeline

Report cards are issued every nine weeks, and progress reports every 4½ weeks into each nine week period.

1. Local Policy

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