

Palos Verdes Peninsula USD

Administrative Regulation

Grades/Evaluation Of Student Achievement

AR 5121

Students

Report cards displaying students' grades in each subject or course shall be provided to parents/guardians at the end of each grading period. Report cards will be available electronically and/or in printed form. 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.

(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)

~~If Whenever~~ it becomes evident to a teacher that a student is earning a "D" or "F" 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)

(cf. 5123 - Promotion/Acceleration/Retention)

For each student in grades 9-12, the Superintendent or designee shall maintain a transcript recording the courses taken, the term that each course was taken, credits earned, final grades, and date of graduation.

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

(cf. 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements)

Grades for Achievement

The teacher of each course shall determine the student's grade. Teachers shall turn in year-end grades by the date designated for that purpose, which shall in no event be later than June 30. Such grades shall be deemed final as of June 30. The grade assigned by the teacher shall not be changed by the Board or the Superintendent, nor shall the grade assigned by the teacher be changed by the teacher subsequent to June 30, except as provided by law, and consistent with Board Policy and Administrative Regulations.

Grades shall not be based, in whole or in part, on tests for which a fee is charged, even if a fee waiver or scholarship is available.

For grades K-5, students' level of progress shall be reported as follows:

Achievement Progress Toward Standard

4 Consistent understanding of and ability to apply grade level standards and expectations.

- 3 Partial understanding of and ability to apply grade level standards and expectations.
- 2 Minimal understanding of and ability to apply grade level standards and expectations.
- 1 Insufficient evidence to identify achievement level.

For grades 6-12 at a minimum, grades for achievement shall be reported for each grading period as follows:

A	(90-100%)	Outstanding Achievement	4.0 grade points
B	(80-89%)	Above Average Achievement	3.0 grade points
C	(70-79%)	Average Achievement	2.0 grade points
D	(60-69%)	Below Average Achievement	1.0 grade points
F	(0-59%)	Little or No Achievement	0 grade points
I		Incomplete	0 grade points

An Incomplete shall be given only when a student's work is not finished because of illness or other excused absence. If not made up within six weeks, the Incomplete shall become an F.

~~Because of the more rigorous nature of Advanced Placement and honors, students receiving a grade of A, B, or C in those courses shall receive extra grade weighting as follows:~~

A	(90-100%)	Outstanding Achievement	5.0 grade points
B	(80-89%)	Above Average Achievement	4.0 grade points
C	(70-79%)	Average Achievement	3.0 grade points

Grades in Honors and Advanced Placement classes are "weighted" if the grade is a "C" or above. The "weighting" means adding .2 points for each course: an "A" is worth 4.2 points; a "B," 3.2 points; a "C," 2.2 points. There is a limit of five weighted courses per semester.

(cf. 6141.5 - Advanced Placement)
 (cf. 6172 - Gifted and Talented Student Program)
 (cf. 6172.1 - Concurrent Enrollment in College Classes)

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)

(cf. 6142.7 - Physical Education)

Student performance in high school physical education courses shall be based upon evaluation of the student's individual progress, attainment of goals in each instructional area, tests designed to determine skill and knowledge, and physical performance tests. (5 CCR 10060)

High school students using interscholastic athletic participation to fulfill physical education requirements, as authorized by Education Code 51242, may be graded on this participation provided that a teacher credentialed to teach physical education supervises this participation and assigns the grade.

(cf. 6145.2 - Athletic Competition)

Grades for College Courses

When the district has approved a student to receive district credit for coursework completed at a community college or four-year college, he/she shall receive the same letter grade as is granted by the college.

Grades for Citizenship, Study Skills, and Effort

Grades for citizenship, study skills, and effort for Elementary School shall be reported as follows:

C	Consistently
S	Some of the Time
AC	Area of Concern

Grades for citizenship, study skills, and effort for Intermediate and High School shall be reported as follows:

O	Outstanding
S	Satisfactory
N	Needs Improvement
U	Unsatisfactory

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 Grading

At their discretion, teachers may use peer grading of student tests, papers, and assignments as appropriate to reinforce lessons.

Repeating Classes

With the approval of the principal or designee, a student may repeat a course in order to raise his/her grade. Both grades received shall be entered on the student's transcript, but the student shall receive credit only once for taking the course.

The highest grade received shall be used in determining the student's overall grade point average (GPA).

Withdrawal from Classes

~~A student who drops a course during the first six weeks of the grading period may do so without any entry on his/her permanent record card. A student who drops a course after the first six weeks of the grading period shall receive an F grade on his/her permanent record, unless otherwise decided by the principal or designee because of extenuating circumstances.~~

A student who drops a course during the first five (5) weeks of the semester, may do so without any entry on his/her permanent report card. A student who drops a course between weeks six (6) and before the end of the first quarter, will receive a W (withdraw) grade on their permanent report card. A student who drops a class after the first quarter shall receive an F grade on his/her permanent record, unless otherwise decided by the principal or designees because of extenuating circumstances.

Effect of Absences on Grades

Teachers who withhold class credit because of excessive unexcused absences shall so inform students and parents/guardians at the beginning of the school year or semester. When a student is chronically absent as defined by the CA Department of Education, ~~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.

(cf. 5113 - Absences and Excuses)

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 from school due to either of the following circumstances: (Education Code 49069.5)

1. A decision by a court or placement agency to change the student's placement, in which case the student's grades and credits shall be calculated as of the date the student left school
2. A verified court appearance or related court-ordered activity

(cf. 6173.1 - Education for Foster Youth)

Grade Point Average

The Superintendent or designee shall calculate each student's GPA using the grade points assigned to each letter grade in accordance with the scale described in the section "Grades for Achievement" above. The grade points for all applicable coursework shall be totaled and divided by the number of courses completed.

(cf. 5126 - Awards for Achievement)

(cf. 6145 - Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities)

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