

**GRADES / EVALUATION OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT**

The Superintendent or designee shall inform teachers of the district's policy regarding grading, including expectations that grades shall be based on factors that directly measure students' knowledge and skills in the content area and shall not include nonacademic factors.

Report cards displaying students' grades in each subject or course shall be distributed to parents/guardians at the end of each grading period. 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.

Whenever it becomes evident to a teacher that a student is 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. Teachers and site administrators are encouraged to develop multiple tiers of support. (Education Code 49067)

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.

**Grades for Academic Performance**

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

4	Masters standards
3	Approaching mastery
2	Making some progress towards standards
1	Making little progress towards standards
NA	Not assessed at this time

For grades 6-12, 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	(50-59%)	Little or No Achievement	0 grade points
I		Incomplete	0 grade points

"P" may be issued when it would be in the best interest of the student not to assign an A, B, C, D, grade. Credit is granted; the grade does not count in the grade point average.

An Incomplete "I" is given only when a student's work is not finished because of illness, other excused absence, or any life altering situation and/or event. If not made up within six weeks, the Incomplete shall become an F.

While the official GPA shall remain unweighted, the district will also calculate the "University of California GPA" and "California State University GPA" using the exact formula and weighting scheme that the UC and CSU systems use. These UC and CSU GPAs shall be available on transcripts, report cards and in the student information system.

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 for Assignments, Assessments and Exams**

All assignments, assessments and exams within each grading period will use 50% as a minimum F grade.

### **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)

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.

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 a teacher credentialed to teach physical education supervises this participation and assigns the grade.

### **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 and Effort**

Any grades for citizenship or work habits, such as effort and study skills, may be reported each marking period as follows:

O	Outstanding
S	Satisfactory
N	Needs Improvement

### **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 an F 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 after the first six weeks of the grading period shall receive a Withdrawal-Fail (WF) grade on his permanent record, unless otherwise decided by the principal or designee because of extenuating circumstances.

### **Effect of Absences on Grades**

Teachers who chose to withhold class credit because of excessive unexcused absences shall so inform the class and parents/guardians at the beginning of the school year or semester.

When a student 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.

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 for any reason specified in Education Code 49069.5.

### **Grade Point Average**

The Superintendent or designee shall calculate each student's GPA using the grade point assigned to each letter grade in accordance with the scale described in the section "Grades for Academic Performance" above. The grade points for all applicable coursework shall be totaled and divided by the number of courses completed. Pass/Fail grades shall not be included in the determination of a student's GPA.

When plus and minus designations are added to letter grades, they shall not be considered in determining GPA.

Each academic year, the Superintendent or designee shall provide to the Student Aid Commission the GPA of all district students in grade 12, except for students who have opted out or are permitted by the rules of the Student Aid Commission to provide test scores in lieu of the GPA. (Education Code 69432.9)

**Regulation SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
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