

GRADES/EVALUATION OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

The County Board of Education believes that grades serve a valuable instructional purpose by helping students and parent/guardians understand performance expectations and identifying the student's areas of strength and those areas needing improvement. Parents/guardians and students have the right to receive course grades that represent an accurate evaluation of the student's achievement.

The County Superintendent of Schools or designee shall establish a grading system based on standards that apply to all students in that course and grade level. Teachers shall ensure that student grades conform to this system. Teachers shall inform students and parents/guardians how student achievement will be evaluated in the classroom.

A teacher shall base a student's grades on impartial, consistent observation of the quality of the student's work and his/her mastery of course content and COE standards. Students shall have the opportunity to demonstrate this mastery through a variety of methods such as classroom participation, homework, tests and portfolios.

The teacher of each course shall determine the student's grade. The grade assigned by the teacher shall not be changed by the County Board or the County Superintendent except as provided by law, County Board policy or administrative regulation. (Education Code 49066)

When reporting student performance to parents/guardians, teachers may add narrative descriptions, observational notes, and/or samples of classroom work in order to better describe student progress in specific skills and subcategories of achievement.

Effect of Absences on Grades

If a student misses class without an excuse and does not subsequently turn in homework, take a test, or fulfill another class requirement which he/she missed, the teacher may lower the student's grade for nonperformance.

Grade Point Average

The County Superintendent or designee shall determine the methodology to be used in calculating students' grade point averages (GPA), including the course to be included with the GPA and whether extra grade weighting shall be applied to Advanced Placement, honors and/or concurrent postsecondary courses.

Adopted 10/16/2014