

Students

GRADES/EVALUATION OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

The Governing Board believes parents/guardians and students have the right to receive information about student progress that represents an accurate evaluation of the student's achievement. A student's work will be evaluated according to standards which apply to all students at his/her grade level.

General criteria for grades and evaluation of student achievement will be consistent among teachers at each grade level throughout the District and will reflect the commitment of the District to high quality education, appropriate placement, and achievement of Board approved academic standards.

The purpose of grading and evaluation of student achievement is to:

- Provide accurate information in terms of mastery of course content and achievement of Board approved State content standards, and assess the degree to which course outcomes are attained by the student
- Provide a realistic representation of the quality of the student's scholastic performance compared to standards
- Inform the student (and parents/guardians) of additional efforts and/or different learning strategies to improve scholastic performance, if needed

Grades shall be based on impartial, consistent observation of the quality of the student's work and his/her mastery of course content and standards. Students shall have the opportunity to demonstrate this mastery through a variety of methods.

The teacher of each course shall determine the student's grade. The grade assigned by the teacher shall not be changed by the Board or the Superintendent except as provided by law, Board policy and administrative regulation. If a student grade is challenged by the parent, at the direction of the principal, the teacher who gave the grade shall state orally, in writing, or both, the reasons for which the grade was given. Insofar as practicable, he/she shall be included in all discussions related to any grade change. In the absence of clerical or mechanical error, fraud, bad faith or incompetency, the student's grade as determined by the teacher shall be final. Teachers shall inform students and parents/guardians how student achievement will be evaluated in the classroom. (Education Code 49066)

GRADES/EVALUATION OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT (continued)Absences

If a student misses class 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. Students who miss school work because of an excused absence shall be given the opportunity to complete all assignments and tests that can be reasonably provided. As determined by the teacher, the assignments and tests shall be reasonably equivalent to, but not necessarily identical to, the assignments and tests missed during the absence. Students shall receive full credit for work satisfactorily completed within a reasonable period of time as determined by the teacher. (BP 6154)

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)

Legal Reference: Education Code  
 48070 Promotion and retention  
 48205 Excused absences  
 48431.6 Required systematic review  
 49066 Grades; finalization; physical education class  
 49067 Mandated regulations regarding pupil's achievement  
United States Code, Title 20  
 1232g Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)  
 6101-6251 School-to-Work Opportunities Act of 1994  
Court Decisions  
 Owasso Independent School District v. Falvo, (2002) 122 S. Ct. 934  
 Las Virgenes Educators Association v. Las Virgenes Unified School District (2<sup>nd</sup> Appellate District 2001) 86 Cal. App. 4<sup>th</sup> 1  
 Swany v. San Ramon Valley Unified School Dist. (N.D. Cal. 1989) 720 F. Supp. 764  
 Johnson v. Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Board of Education (App. 2 Dist. 1986) 224 Cal. Rptr. 885, 179 C.A. 3d 593