



Home of the Warriors

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West Middle School Grading Policy

Nonacademic factors should not be included when determining a student's academic performance grade.

Students will be given opportunities to make up late work. Late work will still be accepted through the week before the end of the quarter. A penalty of up to a 20% reduction in the grade may be assigned to late work. Students may lose privileges and free time and be required to complete the assignment during these times.

Extra credit should only be given for additional academic work in order to enhance the learning of course standards. Teachers are not required to offer extra credit in any course. If extra credit is offered, all students in the class are eligible to earn the extra credit.

The expectation is that all students cite their sources to discourage academic dishonesty. This expectation will be taught by all teachers in various contexts. Students that engage in plagiarism will be expected to redo the assignment with a 20% reduction in their grade.

When students are absent, those students should be excused from class assignments or given adequate time to make up the assignments per teacher discretion. Attendance is not reflected in mastery. Students will be given two days for every day absent to make up an assignment for full credit.

To honor each student's contribution to a project and to accurately assess her/his strengths and weaknesses, students will be assigned roles in the projects and be graded individually.

When applicable, grades should be organized into categories based on academic standards and skills from each content area's adopted state standards.

Grades will be assigned using performance standards that clearly define or describe student achievement.

Student grades will accurately reflect individual student achievement as related to students' academic success towards a standard in a specific content area. Grades will be directly the result of individual student performance on the standards and will not be compared to other students. Grading standards will be preset.

Teachers will assess the standards with adequate depth of knowledge, rigor, and assessment type. Quality assessments should include clear purpose, clear learning goals, sound design, and avoidance of bias.

Multiple measures of central tendency (mean, median, or mode) will be considered when assigning grades, and professional judgement will be used to determine which measure is the most accurate reflection of student learning. Teachers will be able to justify their decision with evidence.

Missing assignments will be left blank in the grade book and will be calculated as a zero until it is made up. Fs will not weigh disproportionate to other grades.

Use interim and summative assessments to determine grades. Formative assessments will not be used in grade calculations.

Students will be provided one opportunity to correct, redo, and resubmit work to improve their grade.

Students will be included in the process of assessment by monitoring their progress and setting goals.

Ratified by the West Middle School Building Leadership Team on May 15, 2018 to take effect on August 1, 2018.

Make-up work for Absences - We believe that all students deserve the opportunity to succeed. Whether a student's absence is excused or unexcused for circumstances beyond their control, they will be provided the opportunity to make up the assignment. When the assignment cannot be made up, an alternative assignment will be provided.

Incentive Time - We believe that every moment matters when striving to maximize learning for every student. We also believe that standards-based learning can be fun. Teachers will plan and deliver standards-based instruction during all periods every day. Fun Fridays or other versions of class reward or incentive activities will follow standards-based lesson plans designed to close gaps in learning or extend learning for students who need additional challenge. Examples of acceptable activities include but are not limited to experiential learning, project-based learning, gamification, and social-emotional learning activities that align with Random Acts of Kindness or other counseling curriculum. Exceptions to this expectation should be rare and must be pre-approved by an administrator.

Amended by the West Middle School Guiding Coalition on October 11, 2018 to take effect October 15, 2018.