GRADING SYSTEMS

Grading is a system of measuring and recording student progress and achievement which enables students, parents and teachers to assess strengths and weaknesses; plan an educational future for students in the areas of the greatest potential for success; and know where remedial work is required.

The Board believes students respond more positively to the opportunity for success than to the threat of failure. Therefore, the District seeks in its instructional program to make achievement both recognizable and possible for students. It emphasizes achievement in its processes of evaluating student performance.

The Board recognizes that a system of grading student achievement can help students, teachers and parents to better assess progress toward personal educational goals and assist the students in implementing that progress.

The administration and professional staff devise grading systems for evaluating and recording student progress. The records and reports of individual students are kept in a form that is understandable to parents as well as teachers. The Board approves the grading and reporting systems as developed by the faculty, upon recommendation of the Superintendent.

The Board recognizes that any grading system, however effective, has subjective elements. There are fundamental principles that must guide all instructors in the assignment of marks and achievement.

1. The achievement mark in any subject should represent the most objective measurement by the teacher of the achievement of the individual. A variety of evaluation measures are used and accurate records are kept to substantiate the grade given.

2. An individual should not receive a failing grade unless he/she has not met stated minimum requirements.

3. Grades are a factor used to motivate students. Poor or failing grades should trigger a variety of instructional and intervention activities to assist the student in achieving better grades by the next grading period, if possible.

The Superintendent develops procedures for grading which include the following.

1. Each student should know what behavior and achievements are expected at the outset of any course of study.

2. Each student should be kept informed of personal progress during the course of a unit of study.

3. Methods of grading are appropriate to the course of study and the maturity of students.

4. Provisions are made for a pass/fail grade where appropriate.

5. Students should be encouraged to evaluate their own achievements.

6. No grading system should serve to inhibit the teacher from learning the strengths and weaknesses of each student on an individual basis.

7. All grading systems are subject to continual review and revision to better serve the purposes for grading established by the Board.

Final decision on any grade is the responsibility of the building principal.

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LEGAL REFS.: OAC 3301-35-04; 3301-35-06

CROSS REFS.: IK, Academic Achievement
IKAB, Student Progress Reports to Parents