

Santa Barbara Unified School District

Administrative Regulation

Students

AR 5121

GRADES/EVALUATION OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Written report cards displaying students' grades in each subject or course, including citizenship, shall be distributed to parents/guardians at the end of each grading period. For grades 7-12, written progress reports for academic work and citizenship in each course shall be distributed to all students' parents/guardians in the middle 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.

(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)

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. (Education Code 49067)

(cf. 5123 - Promotion/Acceleration/Retention)

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.

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

(cf. 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements)

Grades for Achievement

For grades K-6, students' level of progress shall be reported as follows:

- A Advanced
- P Proficient
- B Basic
- BB Below Basic

For grades 7-12, grades for achievement shall be reported using the following grade scale:

A+, A, A-	(90-100%)	Outstanding Achievement	4.0 grade points
B+, B, B-	(80-89%)	Above Average Achievement	3.0 grade points
C+, C, C-	(70-79%)	Average Achievement	2.0 grade points
D+, D, D-	(60-69%)	Below Average Achievement	1.0 grade points
F	(0-59%)	Little or No Achievement	0 grade points
I		Incomplete	0 grade points

An Incomplete shall be given as a provisional grade only when a student's work is not finished because of illness or other excused absence. If the incomplete work is not made up within six weeks, the incomplete work will be assigned a grade of "F" and calculated as part of the final grade.

Because of the more rigorous nature of Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, honors, and concurrent postsecondary courses, students shall receive extra grade weighting as follows:

A+, A, A-	(90-100%)	Outstanding Achievement	5.0 grade points
B+, B, B-	(80-89%)	Above Average Achievement	4.0 grade points
C+, C, C-	(70-79%)	Average Achievement	3.0 grade points
D+, D, D-	(60-69%)	Below Average Achievement	2.0 grade points
F	(0-59%)	Little or No Achievement	0 grade points
I		Incomplete	0 grade points

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.

(cf. 6141.5 - Advanced Placement)

(cf. 6172 - Gifted and Talented Student Program)

(cf. 6172.1 - Concurrent Enrollment in College Classes)

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)

(cf. 6142.7 - Physical Education)

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. (5 CCR 10060)

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

(cf. 6145.2 - Athletic Competition)

Grades for Citizenship, Study Skills, and Effort

Grades for citizenship, study skills, and effort shall be reported as follows:

O	Outstanding	C	Consistently
S	Satisfactory	S	Sometimes
N	Needs Improvement	R	Rarely
U	Unsatisfactory		

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 a Fail grade shall not receive credit for taking the course.

Peer Grading

At their discretion and with sensitivity, 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 during the first six weeks of the semester at Santa Barbara High School and Dos Pueblos High School and during the first three weeks at San Marcos High School may do so without any entry on his/her permanent record card. A student who drops a course after the first six weeks at Santa Barbara and Dos Pueblos high and three weeks at San Marcos High school schools shall receive WF grade on his/her permanent record, unless otherwise decided by the principal or designee because of extenuating circumstances.

Effect of Absences on Grades

Teachers who withhold class credit because of excessive unexcused absences shall so inform students 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.

(cf. 5113 - Absences and Excuses)

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 from school due to either of the following circumstances: (Education Code 49069.5)

1. A decision by a court or placement agency to change the student's placement, in which case the student's grades and credits shall be calculated as of the date the student left school
2. A verified court appearance or related court-ordered activity

(cf. 6173.1 - Education for Foster Youth)

Grade Point Average

The Superintendent or designee shall calculate each student's GPA using the grade points assigned to each letter grade in accordance with the scale described in the section "Grades for Achievement" above. The grade points for all applicable coursework shall be totaled and divided by the number of courses completed.

(cf. 5126 - Awards for Achievement)

(cf. 6145 - Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities)

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

SANTA BARBARA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Santa Barbara, California June 9, 2009; April 27, 2010; December 2, 2011 (Board Brief)