

R 2624 GRADING SYSTEM

A. Purpose of Grading

1. The purpose of grading is to communicate the process of learning; all grading systems will be subject to continual review and revision to that end.
2. Grades acknowledge a pupil's demonstrated proficiency in the New Jersey Student Learning Standards

B. Preparation for Grading

1. Each pupil must be informed of achievements expected of him/her at the outset of each course of study or unit of study.
2. Each pupil must be kept informed of his/her progress during the course of a unit of study.
3. Teachers are to keep a record of grades a pupil earns in an electronic record keeping system. The record must include the date and type of assignment.
4. Each method of grading shall be appropriate to the course of study and the maturity and abilities of the pupils.
5. Pupils should be encouraged to evaluate their own achievements.
6. Teachers must document weekly contacts to parents of all students in danger of failing.
7. Teachers must consult with the Principal, counselor, and parent/guardian before giving a failing grade
8. Any pupil or parent/guardian may schedule a conference with a teacher to inquire about grades.



C. Grading Periods

1. Report Cards will be awarded at the end of four marking periods in each school year.
2. Each new Marking Period grade average does not begin anew - rather, each Marking Period is a seamless continuation of the previous Marking Period average until the Final Grade is determined.
3. Pupils will be given notice of their mid-term grades at mid-point of each marking period.
4. Pupils will be given a final grade in each subject at the end of the school year.
5. Grades will be recorded on report cards for parent(s) or legal guardian(s) notification in accordance with Policy No. 5420 and Regulation No. 5420.

D. Basis for Grading

1. A final grade is determined using both formative and summative assessment work. The specific weighting of formative and summative assessment work will be determined by the Office of Curriculum and Instruction in collaboration with stakeholders. Each grade band may have variances in weighting due to age appropriateness.
 - a. Formative assessment is used to monitor student learning to provide ongoing feedback that can be used by instructors to improve their teaching and by students to improve their learning. Formative assessments:
 - i. help students identify their strengths and weaknesses and target areas that need work
 - ii. help staff recognize where students are struggling and address problems immediately



- iii. are generally low stakes, which means that they have low point value
 - iv. Examples of formative assessments include homework, short quizzes, and individual as well as group assignments.
- b. Summative assessment is used to evaluate student learning at the middle or end of an instructional unit by comparing it against learning standards
- i. Summative assessments are often high stakes, which means that they have a high point value. Examples of summative assessments include performance assessments such as research papers, persuasive or explanatory essays, individual presentations, or benchmark exams.

E. Meaning of Grades

1. The following grades will be given in each academic subject at the end of each marking period:
 - a. A grade of A indicates achievement at or above the grade level according to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards
 - b. A grade of B indicates achievement approaching or at the grade level according to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards
 - c. A grade of C indicates achievement partially meeting or approaching the grade level according to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards
 - d. A grade of D indicates achievement did not yet or partially met the grade level according to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards
 - e. A grade of F indicates achievement did not yet meet the grade level according to the New Jersey Learning Standards; or who has failed to meet the minimum attendance standards necessary to pass a course of study.



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2. All report card grades will be the exact numerical grade rounded to the nearest whole number.

Grading Range

A = 90 - 100

B = 80 - 89

C = 70 - 79

D = 60 - 69

F = 0 - 59

3. At Willingboro High School, a pupil must earn a minimum number of 120 credits to graduate. Course credit is based on whether it is a semester/half-year course (2.5 credits) or a full-year course (5.0 credits).
4. At Willingboro High School, the Grade Point Average (GPA) is used. It is a system for calculating a pupil's scholastic average on a 0 to 4 scale. This system takes into account the grades earned in each academic year.
- The GPA is determined by finding the sum of the products of the quality points for each grade multiplied by the grade point for each course.
 - A mark is assigned a numerical value called the quality point (QP).
 - The quality point values for course grades are:

Advanced Placement

Honors

Other

A = 5.0 QP

A = 4.5 QP

A = 4.0 QP

B = 4.0 QP

B = 3.5 QP

B = 3.0 QP



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C = 3.0 QP

C = 2.5 QP

C = 2.0 QP

D = 1.5 QP

D = 1.0 QP

F. Appeal of Grades

1. Each teacher is responsible for the determination of the grade a pupil receives for participation in the teacher's course of study.
2. Each teacher may be required to furnish reasons, supported by evidence, to substantiate any grade earned.
3. If a grade is challenged by a pupil or a parent(s) or legal guardian(s), the teacher will convene a conference and will explain the grading system and the reasons for the final grade.
4. If the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) or pupil is not satisfied by the teacher's explanations, he/she may appeal the grade by June 30th of the current academic school year to the Principal, who will consult with the teacher and the pupil in an attempt to resolve the dispute. The Principal will give every reasonable deference to the teacher's professional judgment.
5. If the Principal determines that the grade should be changed, he/she will alter the grade on all records and indicate by whose authority the grade has been changed.
6. No reprisals will be taken in any form against a teacher who remains determined in his/her belief that the grade originally given is fair and correct.
7. The Superintendent may hear an appeal from the Principal's determination. Only in the most extraordinary circumstances will the Superintendent alter a grade determined at the school building level.

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