

GRADES/EVALUATION OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

The Governing Board believes that grades serve a valuable instructional purpose by helping students and parents/guardians identify the student's areas of strength and those areas needing improvement. Parents/guardians and students have the right to receive course grades that represent an accurate evaluation of the student's achievement.

Grades should be based on impartial, consistent observation of the quality of the student's work and his/her master of course content and objectives. Students shall have the opportunity to demonstrate this mastery through a variety of channels such as classroom participation, homework, tests and portfolios. The Board recognizes that portfolios may be especially useful in assessing how skills, knowledge and thought processes have been combined from a number of different subject areas.

When reporting student grades to parents/guardians, teachers may add narrative descriptions, observations, notes and/or samples of classroom work in order to better describe student progress in specific skills and subcategories of achievement.

The Board recognizes that the developmental levels of young children vary a great deal. In order to give parents/guardians more information and also promote students' self-esteem and experiences of success, students may receive narrative evaluations and/or other markings denoting achievement.

Behavior, effort and attendance shall be reported in separate evaluations, not in the student's academic grade.

Unexcused Absences

If a student misses class without an excuse 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 as prescribed in school handbooks and/or course outlines.

Students with excessive unexcused absences as prescribed in school handbooks, may be given a failing grade and not receive credit for the classes(es). **Teachers who withhold class credit for this reason shall so inform the class and parents/guardians at the beginning of the semester.**

Students

BP 5121(a)

**GRADES/EVALUATION OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT
(Continued)**

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

48070 Promotion and retention
48431.6 Required systematic review
49066 Grades; finalization; physical education class
49067 Mandated regulations regarding pupil's achievement
Johnson v. Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Board of
Education
(App.2 Dist 1986) 224 Cal. Tptr. 885, 179 C.A. 3d 593

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

6101-6251 School-to-Work Opportunities Act of 1994

Management Resources:

CDE PUBLICATIONS

It's Elementary! Elementary Grades Task Force Report, 1992

TUSD Adopted: 6/9/98