

Students

Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement

The Governing Board believes that grades serve a valuable instructional purpose by helping students and parents/guardians understand performance expectations and identifying 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. (cf. 5020 - Parent Rights and Responsibilities) (cf. 5125.2 - Withholding Grades, Diploma or Transcripts)

The Superintendent or designee shall establish a uniform grading system based on standards that apply to all students in that course and grade level. Principals and teachers shall ensure that student grades conform to this system. Teachers shall inform students and parents/guardians how student achievement will be evaluated in the classroom.

A teacher shall base a student's grades on impartial, consistent observation of the quality of the student's work and his/her mastery of course content and district standards. Students shall have the opportunity to demonstrate this mastery through a variety of methods such as classroom participation, homework, tests, and portfolios. (cf. 6011 - Academic Standards) (cf. 6162.5 - Student Assessment)

The teacher of each course shall determine the student's grade. The grade assigned by the teacher shall not be changed by the Board or the Superintendent except as provided by law, Board policy, or administrative regulation. (Education Code 49066) (cf. 5125.3 - Challenging Student Records)

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

Transcripts that may be used to inform postsecondary institutions or prospective employers of the student's academic achievements shall not contain information disclosing the student's disability.

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Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement (continued)

Effect of Absences on Grades

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. (cf.6154 – Homework/makeup Work)

Legal Reference:

California EDUCATION CODE

41505-41508 Pupil Retention Block Grant

48070 Promotion and retention

48205 Excused absences

48800-48802 Enrollment of gifted students in community college

48904-48904.3 Withholding grades, diplomas, or transcripts

49066 Grades; finalization; physical education class

49067 Mandated regulations regarding student's achievement

49069.5 Students in foster care, grades and credits

51242 Exemption from physical education based on participation in interscholastic athletics

76000-76002 Enrollment in community college

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

10060 Criteria for reporting physical education achievement, high schools

30008 Definition of high school grade point average for student aid eligibility

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1232g Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

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Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement (continued)

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

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34

99.1-99.67 Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

COURT DECISIONS

Owasso Independent School District v. Falvo, (2002) 534 U.S. 426

Las Virgenes Educators Association v. Las Virgenes Unified School District,
(2001) 86 Cal.App.4th 1

Swany v. San Ramon Valley Unified School District, (1989) 720 F.Supp. 764

Johnson v. Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Board of Education,
(1986) 179 Cal.App.3d 593