

EOC Achievement Level	Grade
Excellent/Advanced	A
Good/ Mastery	B
Fair/ Basic	C
*Needs Improvement/ Approaching Basic	D
*Needs Improvement/ Unsatisfactory	F

* The grade related to a score of needs Improvement will be based on scaled scores depending on old or new test versions.

- The DOE will provide conversion charts for various grading scales used by LEAs. (Bulletin 741 §2318)

Percentage and Letter Grades

In grades 1-12, letter grades shall be utilized for each grading period based on the following scale:

93 – 100 = A = 4 quality points

85 – 92 = B = 3 quality points

75 – 84 = C = 2 quality points

67 – 74 = D = 1 quality points

0 – 66 = F = 0 quality points

For high school honors and AP classes, an additional quality point will be used to compute grade point averages. Honors' credit will be awarded for dual enrollment academic courses offered through a two- or four-year college or university that has been approved by the **Ascension Parish School Board**. These approved courses must be on a pathway for an Associates/Bachelor of Arts or Science degree. Honors' credit will not be awarded for programs such as independent study courses, home school courses or courses taught at a technical or vocational school level.

When averaging quality points or percentage grades, fractions of .5 and above will warrant the next higher letter grade or percentage grade in grades 1-12. All fractions or parts thereof will be dropped after the letter grade has been determined. A student is required to have at least a 1.0 average to earn a "D".

In grades 1-8, letter grades are to be used on report cards, in the grade book, and all other permanent records in all areas. There will be no +'s or -'s attached to the letter grades.

Teachers shall use letter grades or quality points in their individual grade books. (Quality points shall be converted to letter grades at the end of the nine weeks.) Conduct should be graded with a letter grade on report cards only; however, no teacher should lower a student's academic grade for disciplinary reasons.

In grades 9-12, letter grades shall be utilized for each grading period. Teachers shall use percentage grades in their individual grade books, but these shall be converted to letter grades at the end of the grading period.

Semester Grades (High School Only)

A student is required to have at least a 1.0 average in order to pass or receive credit for the semester. The average is determined by converting letter grades for the two grading periods to quality points and dividing by two based on the following conversion table:

A = 4 B = 3 C = 2 D = 1 F = 0

A failure for the SECOND NINE-WEEKS is a failure for the semester regardless of the grade for the first nine-weeks. EXCEPTION: In an EOC Course ONLY, if the student fails the SECOND NINE WEEKS, but has the required 1.0 average as appropriately calculated to include all Grading Periods and the EOC Categorical Score, AND earned a category score in the top two achievement levels (Excellent/Good OR Advanced/Mastery) on the EOC Test, then the student will pass with the appropriate letter grade assigned as calculated by Quality Points earned.

Full Year Final Grades

A student is required to have at least a 1.0 overall average to pass a course for the year. The average is determined by converting letter grades for the four grading periods to quality points and dividing by four (overall average) or two (semester average) based on the following conversion table:

A = 4 B = 3 C = 2 D = 1 F = 0

In grades 1-8, failure will result if an average for the last two nine weeks is below 1.0. A failure the SECOND SEMESTER is a failure for the year regardless of the grades for the first semester.

Cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA)

For student that entered High school in the Fall of 2014 or before:

In grades 9-12, a student's **cumulative** GPA will be determined by calculating the sum of the product of the quality points earned per course per nine-weeks and the potential credits per course

per nine weeks divided by the sum of the potential credits per course per quarter. If a student elects to improve his/her cumulative GPA by retaking a course, these guidelines will be followed:

- Correspondence, university, or distance learning courses that have been approved by the principal may be used to repeat a course.
- Only regular level courses may be taken to repeat a course.
- A course that has been passed previously cannot be repeated through a summer school program.
- A course may be repeated only one time for the purpose of improving the grade.
- GPA includes all course grades, even those that have been repeated. A Carnegie unit will only be awarded one time.
- Priority will be given to students enrolling in a course for the first time. Students will be allowed to repeat a course if space in a class is available.

For students that enter the 9th Grade in the Fall of 2015 and beyond:

In grades 9-12, a student's cumulative GPA will be determined by calculating the sum of the product of the quality points earned from the course's final grade and the total potential credits possible from said course. If a student elects to improve his/her cumulative GPA by retaking a course, these guidelines will be followed:

- Correspondence, university, or distance learning courses that have been approved by the principal may be used to repeat a course.
- Only regular level courses may be taken to repeat a course.
- A course that has been passed previously cannot be repeated through a summer school program.
- A course may be repeated only one time for the purpose of improving the grade.
- GPA includes all course grades, even those that have been repeated. A Carnegie Unit will only be awarded one time.
- Priority will be given to students enrolling in a course for the first time. Students will be allowed to repeat a course if space in a class is available.

Student within the same graduating class will be ranked according to their **cumulative GPA**. In the event of a tie, between any of the top four ranked positions, the GPA of each of the students involved will be recalculated by calculating the sum of the product of the quality points earned per course per nine-weeks and the potential credits per course per nine-weeks divided by the sum of the potential credits per course per quarter.

Students in the Early College Option Program are members of their home-based schools' graduating classes. ECO students are eligible to share Valedictorian and Salutatorian Awards with students from their home school. An ECO student may share the Valedictorian Award should their GPA be equal to or higher than the top ranking student at their home school. Likewise, an ECO student may share the Salutatorian Award should their GPA be equal to or greater than the second ranking student and less than the top ranking student at their home school.

To ensure that a fair and even opportunity exists for all high school students, whether in the ECO program or not, the above method will be used to determine valedictorian/salutatorian at each Ascension Parish high school campus:

In cases in which students at Early College Options (ECO) are allowed more opportunities for "weighted classes" than his/her student counterparts at his/her home-based school are allowed, the number of weighted classes calculated into determining Val/Sal awards will not exceed the number of weighted classes offered at the home school. When necessary, additional courses will be adjusted to "unweighted."

Similarly, in cases in which a student's home-based school allows more opportunities for "weighted classes" than Early College Options (ECO) allows, the number of weighted courses calculated into determining Val/Sal awards will not exceed the number of weighted classes offered at ECO. When necessary, additional courses will be adjusted to "unweighted."

In Kindergarten, grades of Satisfactory (mastery), Progressing/Developing (approaching mastery), and Needs Improvement (unmastered), shall be utilized for each grading period based on students' portfolio work collections and individualized testing.

No grade shall be given in spelling, language, and social living in the first grade for the first semester.

In grades 1-8, grades of Satisfactory will be reported as an "S" and grades of Unsatisfactory will be reported as a "U" on all permanent records. An "S" grade indicates achievement at a 67% or higher level; a "U" indicates failure. The following subjects will be graded with S/U:

- handwriting - grades 1-3
- health & P.E. - grades 1-3
- art - grades 1-3
- music - grades 1-3

Acceleration

Grades K-8

Accelerated progression is not universally appropriate or beneficial, and the decision to utilize it as an option will only be considered in cases where superior academic ability has been demonstrated.

It is the belief of the Ascension Parish School System that the needs of students with advanced academic abilities can in most cases be achieved through differentiated teaching/learning and classroom enrichment programs.

A request to consider acceleration is submitted to the principal from a parent or teacher.

The School Building Level Committee, appointed by the principal, will act upon the request based upon the following criteria:

1. The student being considered shall have been previously evaluated and classified as gifted per *Bulletin 1508*.
2. Academic Maturity: The student will have scored in the 98th percentile in math and reading on a nationally normed test of academic achievement.
3. Intellectual Maturity: Student will have demonstrated an intellectual functioning level in the 99th percentile on a nationally normed test of academic aptitude, or "I.Q."
4. Physical Maturity: Student should fit within the physical range of the next grade level.
5. Social and Emotional Maturity: Student should be free of any serious adjustment problems. In some cases, gifted students' social or emotional difficulties may be caused by inappropriately low class placement. Absence of close peer relationships may not be due to social immaturity.
6. It is important that the student should not feel unduly pressured by parents/teachers. The student him/herself should be eager to move ahead.
7. Attendance: Student should attend school regularly to achieve skills necessary for academic success.
8. The committee shall also utilize course grades, scores from appropriate standardized tests, teacher/parent/student interviews and input, and other pertinent information which may help determine appropriate placement.

A student who meets these requirements *may* be a candidate for acceleration; however, the final decision will be made by the committee with the principal based on all available data.

1. Parents will be informed of the school's recommendation.
2. Parents have a right to appeal the decision to the appropriate level Director.

3. If the decision is to “accelerate” the student, a written parental consent must be obtained prior to placement and kept on file in the student’s cumulative record.

Describe any applicable policies and procedures for grade “skipping.”

The “skipping” of grades is not generally advocated except in cases where extreme academic ability has been demonstrated and advancement will not impair a student’s social/emotional well being. Such placement decisions will be determined through a conference with appropriate school personnel and the parents. Written parental consent must be obtained prior to placement. If a student enters the school system for the first time with a record of being skipped to the assigned grade the previous year, the school administrator shall have the right to place the student, after evaluation, in the grade most appropriate for the student.

► Describe any policies governing services for gifted students.

Ascension Parish offers enrichment experiences for appropriately identified gifted students in grades K-8 as an extension of the regular curriculum. Teachers who enroll identified students are afforded inservice training in the area of gifted characteristics, materials, and curriculum strategies which seek to enhance the student’s curriculum, based on his needs and interests. Services are also provided to appropriately identified pre-school age students.

XII. LEA assurances and submission information

Assurance is hereby made to the Louisiana Department of Education that this (insert name of LEA) Ascension Parish School Board 2017-2018 Pupil Progression Plan has been developed in compliance with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations. If any local policy outlined in this plan conflicts with federal or state laws or regulations, I understand that federal and state laws and regulations shall supersede the local policy.

Date approved by local school board or governing authority: February 6, 2018

/s/ David Alexander
Superintendent

/s/ Patricia Russo
Board President