

STUDENTS

Reporting Student Progress

All appropriate means will be used to communicate student progress to the parents/legal guardians of minor students or to adult students.

A. Report Cards/Progress Reports

1. All students in the school division will be formally evaluated four times a year.
2. The Superintendent will designate the four (4) nine-week grading periods.
3. All teachers will use approved report cards/progress reports.
4. Report cards will be issued within five (5) school days following the close of the grading period.
5. Grading of students will be accomplished according to the school division's guidelines and grading scale. (Note: The pass/fail option may be used in lieu of a formal grade in noncredit classes for the ESL middle school student with an English proficiency of Levels 1.0-3.3.)

B. Progress Reports

Students, including those with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs), who are performing below expected levels will receive progress reports at the midpoint of each grading period. Instructional personnel will use the electronic gradebook progress reports for reporting student progress.

Teachers are encouraged to use various informal means of reporting student progress including conferences, telephone calls, notes, and school visitations.

C. Student Evaluation - Grading

The following regulations apply to the evaluation of student achievement.

1. Guidelines for teachers have been developed to assist staff members in assessing and reporting student progress to parents/legal guardians of minor students or to adult students.
2. Final assessments serve as a culminating activity and will be administered in all courses bearing credit toward graduation, except as noted in the Guidelines for

Grading and Reporting Student Progress in Middle Schools, and Guidelines for Grading and Reporting Student Progress in High Schools.

3. Honor graduates are those students having a 3.0000 cumulative grade point average at the end of the senior year.
4. Students in grades K-5 will receive proficiency scores indicating how well they understand the concepts or skills taught during that marking period. The proficiency scores approved for use in the School Division are as follows:
 - AP: Advanced Proficient - Consistently demonstrates proficiency; grasps, applies and extends key concepts, processes and skills
 - P: Proficient - Regularly grasps and applies key concepts, processes and skills with limited errors
 - DP: Developing Proficiency - Beginning to grasp and apply key concepts, processes and skills
 - N: Novice - Not making expected progress toward proficiency

~~For the 2013-2014 school year, in addition to the proficiency scores, students in fourth grade and fifth grade will receive letter grades in accordance with the numerical scale approved for use in the School Division as follows:~~

- ~~▪ A = (93 – 100)~~
- ~~▪ A- = (90 – 92)~~
- ~~▪ B+ = (87 – 89)~~
- ~~▪ B = (83 – 86)~~
- ~~▪ B- = (82 – 80)~~
- ~~▪ C+ = (77 – 79)~~
- ~~▪ C = (73 – 76)~~
- ~~▪ C- = (70 – 72)~~
- ~~▪ D+ = (67 – 69)~~
- ~~▪ D = (64 – 66)~~
- ~~▪ E = Below 64~~

~~For the 2014-2015 school year, in addition to the proficiency scores, only students in fifth grade will receive letter grades as designated above.~~

5. Students may receive “P” for passed and “F” for failed on transfer courses. “P” will be counted as credit for completing a course but as neutral when calculating GPA. “F” will not be counted as credit for a course but will be counted as an “E” when calculating GPA.

6. Students may receive a “W” for withdrawal from a class if after 30 days into the school year they drop a course. A “W” will count as not completing the course and calculated as an “E” when determining GPA.
7. Students may receive an “I” for incomplete. An “I” will revert to an “E” 30 days after the end of the school year.
8. Students may receive an “N” as a semester grade for failure due to attendance. “N” will be calculated as an “E” when determining GPA. “N” will not be used as a final grade. The grade of “E” will be the final grade.

D. Student Evaluation Grade Change Procedures

If an adult student or the parent/legal guardian of a minor student questions a grade, the procedures listed below will be used.

1. The student and/or the parent/legal guardian of a minor student will request that the teacher review the grading process and computation.
2. Following the review, the teacher will decide if a grade change should be made and will inform the student and/or the parent/legal guardian of a minor student of the decision.
3. An appeal of the teacher's decision may be made to the principal/executive director.
4. If the teacher is not available, the principal/executive director will review the grading process and/or computation and will inform the student and/or the parent/legal guardian of a minor student and the teacher of the decision.

E. Student Promotion/Placement Criteria

Principals shall ensure that each student's record contains all criteria used in making placement and promotion decisions, as well as any instructional interventions used to improve the student's performance. This information shall be communicated to the student.

Editor's Note

Also see Guidelines for Grading and Reporting Student Progress on the School Division website: www.vbschools.com. Teachers see vbcps.com.

Legal Reference

8-VAC-20-131-10, et seq., as amended. Virginia Board of Education Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia.

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Revised by Superintendent: August 13, 1997
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