

PROPOSAL TO REQUEST A CHANGE TO THE CURRENT GRADING SCALE AT  
TATES CREEK HIGH SCHOOL

The Tates Creek High School (TCHS) Instructional Team supports the TCHS SBDM Council's consideration for changing the current grading scale at Tates Creek High School. The purpose for the change is to be more reflective of post-secondary grading scales at the college level, be more competitive with other high schools for scholarships based on GPA, and help address the achievement gap for our students. Henry Clay High School recently adopted the 10-point scale, therefore, every Fayette County Public High School, for the exception of TCHS, is on a 10-point scale.

Tates Creek High School's Current grading scale is:

92% - 100%	A
83% - 91%	B
74% - 82%	C
65% - 73%	D
0% - 64%	F

The proposed 10-point scale is:

90% - 100%	A
80% - 89%	B
70% - 79%	C
60% - 69%	D
0% - 59%	F

To be more in line with post-secondary education, the 10-point grading scale would match that of University of Kentucky, Eastern Kentucky University, Western Kentucky University, University of Louisville, and the Kentucky Community and Technical College System, which includes the Bluegrass Community and Technical College. These are only a few named, but each college we researched within Kentucky and surrounding states uses a 10-point grading scale.

TCHS has dual credit courses on their subject choice cards for next school year. All BCTC dual credit courses use a 10-point scale. These students may be earning an A for a 90% in their dual credit call whereas they earn a B in their non-dual credit courses, including International Baccalaureate (IB) and Advanced Placement (AP) courses.

TCHS students have a disadvantage earning scholarships and KEES money, which are determined by a student's unweighted GPA. A quick example of the KEES money difference looks like this: a student with a 3.0 GPA earns \$1,000 towards college (\$250 per year over four years) whereas a student at another local high school with a 4.0 GPA earns \$2,000 towards college (\$500 per year over four years). With a 10-point grading scale, TCHS students could earn higher GPA's for the same grades. In order for TCHS to be academically competitive, this 10-point grading scale would put us on a more equitable playing field with other high school students, not only in the district, but also in the state.

In addition, this addresses a percentage of our failure rate schoolwide and our attempts to close the achievement gap with African-American students and students with disabilities. In the fall of 2019, there were 120 courses in which a student failed earning between a 60-64%; due to COVID-19 and NTI, there is no data for the spring 2020 semester. The 10-point scale would lower our retention rate and improve our graduation rate as well. In terms of athletics, it levels the playing field for our students in regards to high school tryout eligibility. This change also provides a better eligibility opportunity for student athletes registering with college eligibility clearinghouse organizations such as the NCAA and NAIA.

The purpose of this waiver/proposal is to help the students at TCHS be more successful academically and be consistent with our fellow area high schools to close the achievement gap, increase KEES money, increase our graduation rate, and provides a greater opportunity for more students to be involved in a school-sponsored, KHSAA sanctioned sport.

*Approved by SBDM - June 29, 2020*