

DEER CREEK MIDDLE SCHOOL

GRADING POLICIES & PRACTICES



Deer Creek uses a standards-based grading system that is consistent with research-based, data-driven educational practices. All students will receive two separate grades in each class.

The primary goals of standards-based grading and reporting are:

- To assess and report what each student knows and is able to do in relation to curriculum content, which is aligned to district and state standards (Content Knowledge Grade).
- To demonstrate the connection of positive and consistent work habits and behavior to student learning (Work Habits Grade).
- To provide guidance regarding interventions needed for student success.

How are Content Knowledge Grades determined?

Content Knowledge Grades are based on student demonstration of academic achievement; therefore, Content Knowledge Grades are:

- Determined by a body of academic evidence that supports the achievement of standards in a content area.
- Determined through the use of multiple assessments over time as well as the opportunity for retakes if necessary. Retake opportunities/multiple opportunities for demonstration of learning are an integral part of standards-based grading and reporting.
- Reflective of tasks completed, whether in or out of class, to demonstrate an understanding of content knowledge and skills (e.g. assessments, demonstrations, projects, presentations, research papers, etc.).

Content Knowledge Grades for each trimester reflect the standards embedded in the course during that term and should be aligned accordingly with expected progress for the trimester.

Content Knowledge Grades for students with Individual Education Plans (IEP's) will be based upon the learning standards for the content area, with appropriate accommodations provided as determined by the IEP.

Content Knowledge Grade Descriptors for Trimester Grading Scale:

A = 3.5-4.00 - Exceeds standards for this grading period

B = 2.6-3.49 - Meets standards for this grading period

C = 1.8-2.59 - Is progressing toward standards for this grading period

D = 1.0-1.79 - Does not meet standards for this grading period; Interventions are necessary for standards in this grading period

I = 0.0-0.99 - Insufficient evidence at this time; Additional work must be completed and turned in before the teacher can make a determination of the student's progress

Content Knowledge Grades will be used to calculate grade point average (GPA).

How are Work Habits Grades determined?

Work Habits Grades are based on student demonstration of behaviors related to work completion, preparedness for learning, participation, and following classroom expectations. These behaviors contribute to academic success as well as the ability to be lifelong learners and positive contributors to society.

Specifically, Work Habits Grades are:

- Determined based on tasks that are assigned for practice or preparation, including homework completion and homework quality.
- Determined by other factors such as class participation, work ethic, neatness, effort, attendance, punctuality of assignments, class behavior and attitude, student notebooks and journals. This data may be collected through observation and objective indicators.

Work Habits Grades for students with Individual Education Plans (IEP's) will be based upon the applicable rubrics, with appropriate accommodations provided as determined by the IEP.

Work Habits Grade Descriptors for Trimester Grading Scale:

- A = 3.5-4.00 - Work habits consistently exceed expectations
- B = 2.6-3.49 - Work habits consistently meet expectations
- C = 1.8-2.59 - Work habits inconsistently meet expectations
- U = 0.0-1.79 - Work habits do not meet expectations

Work Habits Grades are not part of the grade point average (GPA) calculation.

Honor Roll

Academic achievement is recognized through the Deer Creek honor roll, awarded at the end of each trimester.

In determining eligibility for High Honor Roll, students must:

1. Maintain a Content Knowledge GPA of 3.75 or higher, and
2. Maintain a Work Habits Grade of B or higher in all classes for the term.

In determining eligibility for Honor Roll, students must:

1. Maintain a Content Knowledge GPA of 3.5 to 3.74, and
2. Maintain a Work Habits Grade of B or higher in all classes for the term.