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Dear PPMS Families,

Good evening, and I hope that it has been a great start to the school year for your family! I am very proud of how our students have started the year with energy, optimism and kindness. The purpose of this email is to update you on middle school grading practices for the 24-25 school year.

We have received feedback in the past about the difficulty of navigating the variability in gradebooks across courses at the middle school level. This year all middle school grades will utilize the board approved equal integer proficiency scale, (0-4), shown below. Many of our teachers are already using a 0-4 scale along with proficiency rubrics to provide students with targeted feedback on their learning and to report student learning to families. In Infinite Campus, parents and students will see the assessment score (0-4) and current letter grade in the class, not the traditional 100 point scale or percent calculation of the grade. Final grades will be determined by the teacher based on overall evidence of student proficiency by the end of the term. The scale is below for your reference.

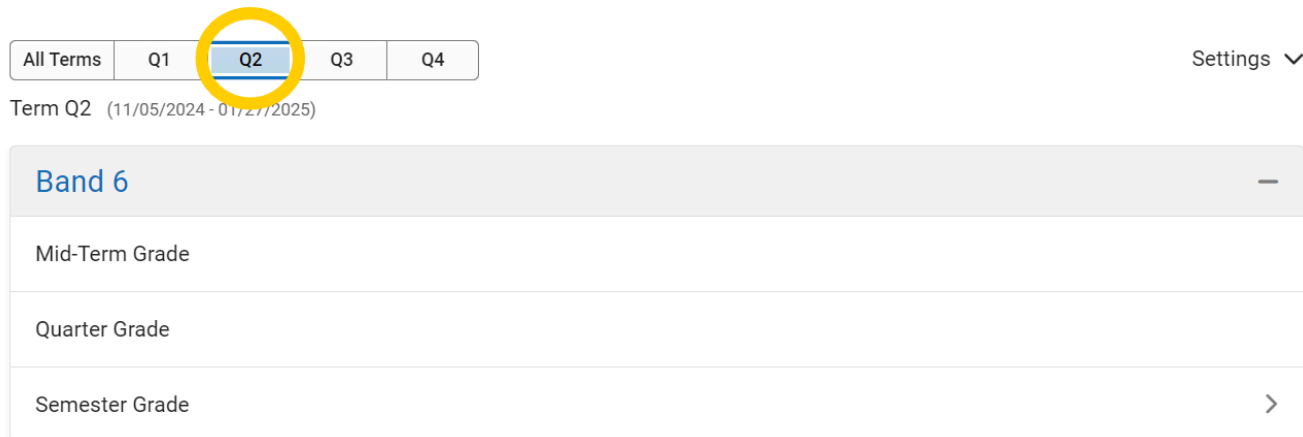
#### **Grading Scale (beginning Fall 2024 for all students)**

Grade	Scale	Explanation
A	4	<i>Excellent:</i> Consistently demonstrates an excellent understanding of curriculum standards and/or exceeds current expectations on grade level/course curriculum standards.
B	3	<i>Proficient:</i> Consistently demonstrates a good understanding of curriculum standards or consistently meets current expectation on grade level/course curriculum standards.
C	2	<i>Developing:</i> Consistently demonstrates a fair understanding of curriculum standards or partially meets current expectation on grade level/course curriculum standards
D	1	<i>Beginning:</i> Does not demonstrate consistent understanding of most curriculum standards or minimal progress made toward current expectation on grade level/course curriculum standards
F	0	Does not demonstrate understanding of most curriculum standards or missing evidence to determine grade.
Grading Codes I = Incomplete Indicates a lack of sufficient evidence to determine current achievement, and may be used as a temporary grade until an A, B, C, D, or F is assigned.		

*Mission: To develop empowered learners, critical thinkers, and problem solvers who succeed in and positively impact their community and the world.*

The new scale places a greater emphasis on mastery of content standards. It aligns with the goal of promoting a deep understanding of skills and standards. The simplified scale also provides more consistent grading practices across classrooms, increased opportunities for teacher calibration of scores, and a more accurate representation of a student's achievement. Some departments/content areas have already made the transition to proficiency scale rubrics for feedback and assessments over the past few years. Other departments are still in the process of developing rubrics and will be implementing them into the program over the next several years.

I am sharing this information with you at the start of the year so that you are aware of what you can expect to see when checking your child's grades in Infinite Campus. I would also like to remind you that our classes are set up by semester, so when checking Infinite Campus, please make sure that you are always looking at Quarter 2. This is where all first semester scores will appear.



All Terms Q1 **Q2** Q3 Q4 Settings ▾

Term Q2 (11/05/2024 - 01/27/2025)

Band 6

Mid-Term Grade

Quarter Grade

Semester Grade >

What can you do to support your child at home?

- Regularly check IC grades with your child and make a plan for success.
- Read the weekly house communication with your child to prepare for upcoming learning.
- Access your child's Canvas course to familiarize yourself with the standards and learning happening in the classroom.
- Encourage your child to use class time or Resource period to access teachers for help or to answer questions. Help them self advocate.

We are looking forward to a great school year of learning. You will see more specific grading information shared in teacher video presentations that will be sent to you tomorrow. Please contact the classroom teacher if you have any questions regarding assessment and grading in a course.

Thank you for a great start to the school year! It has been a pleasure seeing our students' smiling faces everyday in the building! We hope to see you Thursday night for our PPMS community night!

Kelly Szesterniak, Principal