



Equitable Grading in LBUSD for Middle & High School Students



Board Policy 5121 Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement.

On March 20th, 2024, the Board of Education approved Board Policy 5121 Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement. This policy is grounded in the board approved Excellence and Equity Policy 0415 which was approved in 2021. The intent is to establish a uniform grading system that provides cohesion and alignment across the district. The purpose of this policy is to create a learning environment where all students have the opportunity to thrive, grow, and succeed, regardless of their background or circumstances.



Collaboration and Development

Over the past two years, representatives from various departments came together to develop the Equitable Grading Policy and implementation guidelines. Over 1,000 teachers, students and parents helped to inform the policy through participation in 36 study and focus groups. Data from these focus groups were collected and used to inform the Equitable Grading Policy that was approved by the LBUSD Board of Education.

Why a Grading Policy?



Equitable grading practices ensure that students across the district have opportunities to demonstrate their knowledge and skills in a fair and consistent manner. This motivates students to engage in learning, knowing that their efforts are valued and recognized. By clearly articulating expectations, providing feedback, and offering support when needed, teachers can help students succeed academically and develop important skills for lifelong learning. The guidelines ensure consistency across all schools grading based on student knowledge and the mastery of skills.

These include:

- ✓ Clear communication of grading practices that ensure a supportive learning environment.
- ✓ Grading based on knowledge and skills.
- ✓ Multiple opportunities to demonstrate proficiency.
- ✓ Ongoing feedback provided to support growth in learning.
- ✓ Empowering students to advocate for themselves and develop a growth mindset.
- ✓ Changing the F to 50% to make it equitable with the other A-D grade bands. This also provides students with motivation to retake or revise their assignments, as it is less stressful when they see that it is less of an uphill task to improve their grades.

You can find the full policy and more information at lbschools.net/grading.