



# Grading Practices 2023-2024

Open House August 17, 2023

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1

# What is the purpose of GRADES?

What should grades mean?  
Who uses grades?

# What is the Purpose of Grades?

The purpose of grades is to communicate what a student has learned (and still needs to learn) to the student, teacher, family, colleges, and potential bosses and employers.

# Who Uses Grades?

## Grades Inform

**teachers and students** what the student knows and can do and what the student needs to learn next.

## Grades Communicate

to **students, families, counselors, teacher, staff, and support services** how a student is doing and if a student needs help or more challenge.

## Grades Measure

achievement so **counselors, administrators, the registrar, etc.** can determine course selection, “promotion” to the next grade level in school, GPA, and eligibility to graduate, i.e. meeting graduation requirements.

## Grades Award and Reward

**student achievement:** academic awards, scholarships college admission, job offers, car insurance costs and discounts at restaurants and stores are based on grades.





# 2

# GRADING for EQUITY

What is the difference between equality and equity?  
What does “grading for equity” look like?

Reality



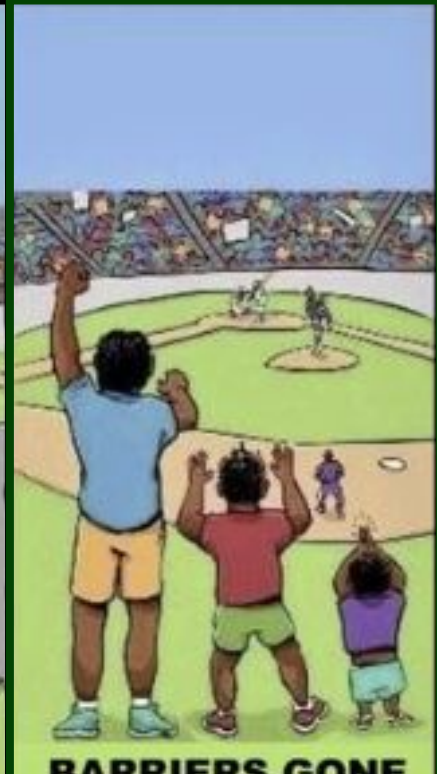
Equality



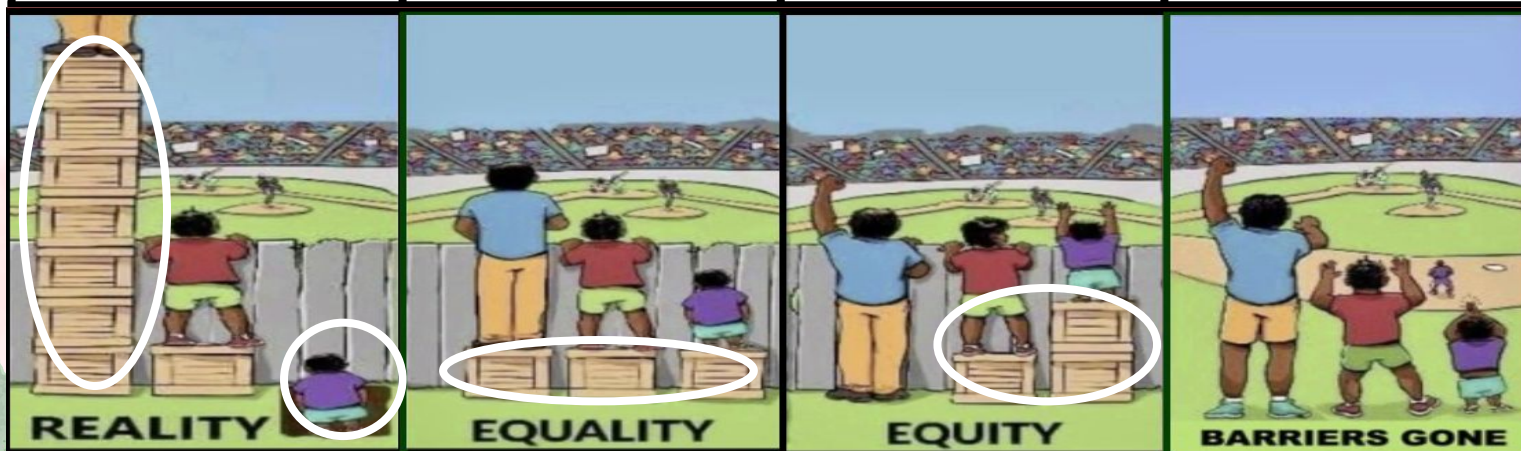
Equity



No Barriers



Reality	Equality	Equity	No Barriers
The way things are in society today.	Everyone gets the same - whether they need it or not.	Everyone gets what they need when it's needed.	Everyone has what they needed and is given access to opportunities without obstacles.







# 2

# Accurate and Meaningful Grades

What can we do to make grades  
communicate student learning?



# ***District 94***

## ***Grading Philosophy***

“All students deserve equitable opportunities and experiences.

An equitable education includes access to a rigorous standards-focused common curriculum and student-centered instruction.

Consistent feedback, assessment, and grading policies and practices that are aligned at the division and course team level support student growth and learning.”

# How do we make Grades Accurate?



**Teach and assess national and state standards and targets.**



**Increase the value of “assessments” and decrease the value of “practice.”**



**Encourage students to retake assessments.**

# What Steps has WeGo Taken?

- At least 90% of the semester grade is based on “assessments” like tests, papers, lab reports, etc.
- No more than 10% of the semester grade is based on “practice” like homework or classwork.
- Students have the opportunity to retake a summative assessment when they complete the required practice.

The grading “non-negotiables” above do not apply to art, music, physical education, and special education classes.



# What is a Retake?

A RETAKE is a 2nd chance to take an assessment after a student has more knowledge and/or developed new skills that were taught earlier in a unit.

# When can Students do a Retake?

With teachers by appointment

During Den in Academic Support

AVID, CORE Lab, EL Study Skills, SRC, Study Skills

After school tutoring in LRC



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# SUPPORTS for STUDENTS

How is WeGo supporting students?  
What can families do to support them?

# Academic Supports

## Classes that Provide Support

- **AVID**
- **CORE Lab**
- **EL Study Skills**
- **Student Resource Center (SRC)**
- **Study Skills**

## Other Supports

- **Academic Support during Den time**
- **After School Tutoring: English, math, and special education**



# How can parents support students?

Prioritize Attendance.

Encourage eating FREE breakfast at WeGo.

Remind Chromebooks need charging.

Model how to ask for help.

Talk about homework.

Check PowerSchool.

Promote RETAKES.



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# Grading Pilots for 2023-2024

What grading pilots are occurring this year?  
What is the purpose of each pilot?

# Pilot #1: Retake Data

A group of teachers are tracking assessment data to determine

- how frequently students retake assessments
- if students who earn Ds and Fs complete retakes
- whether retakes improve grades

# Pilot #2: In-class Retakes

Five courses are evaluating the impact of requiring in-class retakes:

- Bilingual Biology
- English 1
- Essentials of Biology
- Sheltered US History
- US History (Spanish Language)



# Pilot #3: “Collapsed Grading Scale”

English 1	9th
English 1 Self-Contained	9th
ESL 2	9th-10th
ESL 3 Language Enrichment	9th-11th
Spanish for Native Speakers 1	9th-12th
Spanish 3	9th-12th
English 2 Enriched	10th
English 2 Sheltered	10th
AP World History	10th
AP Statistics	10-12th
Quantitative Math Literacy	10th-12th
American History (regular, cotaught, Spanish, sheltered)	11th
AP Spanish Language & Culture	11th-12th
Criminal Justice	11th-12th
Intro to Philosophy	11th-12th

