Wylie ISD Junior High Grading Procedures

Purpose of Grading in Wylie ISD

In Wylie ISD, grades assess student learning and mastery of the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills. These grades reflect student mastery of grade level content at an independent level through a combination of daily assignments and classroom activities as well as major grades. Grades are intended to communicate academic progress to parents and timely feedback to students. It is the goal of Wylie ISD to prepare students for a successful life beyond high school by providing instruction that promotes college and career readiness.

Wylie ISD board policy governing grades can be found at: http://pol.tasb.org/home/index/316

Texas Education Code governing grades can be found at:
http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Index.aspx

Grading Practices

District Grading Expectations

- Wylie ISD does not support students receiving an average of 69 for a term or semester.
    - Per Texas Education Code, Section 28.0214: An examination or course grade issued by a classroom teacher is final and may not be changed unless the grade is arbitrary, erroneous, or not consistent with the school district grading policy applicable to the grade.
- Grades will be entered into Skyward weekly so that parents and students have a clear understanding of their progress throughout the grading term.
- Courses taken for high school credit at the junior high level will follow all high school grading procedures and guidelines.
- Students will receive a formal progress note via Skyward every 3 weeks and a formal grade report at the end of each grading term.

Number of Grades

At grades 7 and 8:

- 3-5 major grades per subject per grading term
- 9-20 minor grades per subject per grading term
- Major grades will count 60% of a student's grading term average. Minor grades will count as 40% of a student's grading term average.
    - Individual grades may only be entered once. For example, a major project may not count as 3 major grades unless each grade is specific to an identified piece of the project.
    - Grades are expected to measure progress and mastery across an entire grading

term. Thus, the general guideline is that students receive a minimum of one minor grade each week and one major grade each three weeks. Principals have the discretion to work with teachers on a case-by-case basis to modify this guideline.

Late Work Procedures

- At grades 7 and 8, late work will be accepted up to 3 days after the due date for no academic penalty. Students will be assigned to work recovery sessions in order to complete any work that is late.

Procedures for Reteach/Retest

Grades 7-8

Upon successful completion of a reasonable intervention measure, as prescribed by the teacher, a student will be given an opportunity to re-do an assignment or re-take a test for full credit based on mastery of the TEKS. The timeframe for completion of the assignment re-do or test re-take shall be 3 days from when the grade has been posted in the gradebook. However, at the end of a 3 week or 6 week period students must complete any re-do/re-take work by the Wednesday following the end of the grading period. This opportunity shall exist for any item included in a student's grading term average (major or minor). Failure to complete the prescribed intervention measure and/or meet the timeline established by the teacher will result in the student receiving the original grade awarded. This applies to all classes and all assignments, tests, papers, labs, projects, etc.

Students taking courses for high school credit while in grade 8 and thus earning GPA points will follow the reteach/retest procedures for grades 9-12.

Make-up Work

For every school day absent, the student has one school day for completion of missed assignments. Administrators have the discretion to modify this guideline in circumstances where students are absent due to an extended illness.

End-of-Term Grading Guidelines

- Grades for the reporting period are entered by Tuesday prior to the end of the grading term
- Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday are for corrections and make-up work
- New assignments given on Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday count in the next grading term

Assessment

At the junior high and high school level, grades for unit assessments and checkpoints may be entered into the gradebook. Assessment data will be communicated with parents. District-written unit assessments will not be sent home, but parents may make an appointment to review these assessments

with teachers. On all unit assessments, assessment items with a passing rate of 40% or lower will not be included in the student's grade.

Academic Dishonesty

Once a determination has been made that a student has engaged in academic dishonesty, the student shall be subject to grade penalties on assignments or tests and disciplinary penalties and/or counseling in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct. Academic dishonesty includes cheating or copying the work of another student, plagiarism, and unauthorized communication between students during an examination. The determination that a student has engaged in academic dishonesty shall be based on the judgment of the classroom teacher or another supervising professional employee, taking into consideration written materials, observation, or information from students.

Parent Communication

In addition to typical communication for every child, parents will be informed frequently of their child's progress. Parent conferences will be scheduled as needed.