

An evaluation system of students' academic performance is necessary to help ensure that all students are succeeding within the framework of the educational goals and objectives of the board. The Watauga County Board of Education (the "board") believes that the formal issuance of student evaluations on a regular basis promotes continuous assessment of a student's performance; informs the student, his or her parents or guardians, and the school staff about the student's performance and progress; and provides a system of notice that allows intervention strategies to be implemented if necessary to improve the student's performance. The board encourages teachers and principals to pursue innovative methods of evaluating progress.

The superintendent or designee shall establish an evaluation system for assessing an individual student's academic achievement and progress relative to benchmarks set for students at that instructional level. The evaluation system should provide for regular communication with parents so that they may be informed and involved in their child's education.

Teachers shall evaluate student performance and keep accurate records in order to substantiate a grade or assessment given in a course. In evaluating student performance, each teacher shall make use of all available information, including but not limited to:

1. Formative, Benchmark, and Summative Classroom assessments and grades
2. North Carolina Ready End-of-Course tests (EOC)
3. North Carolina Ready End-of-Grade tests (EOG)
4. Writing Assessments
5. VoCATS
6. Other standardized tests
7. Teacher observation of student performance
8. Assistance of resource personnel

All high schools, middle schools, and elementary schools will use the following grading scale.

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| A | 90-100 |
| B | 80-89  |
| C | 70-79  |
| D | 60-69  |
| F | < 59   |

The following letter grades also may be used as applicable.

|     |                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| FF  | FF may be used for a student who does not have a passing grade based on content and also has been absent for at least 10% of the classes for the course.                            |
| INC | If a student has extenuating circumstances, such as a medical condition, the superintendent, principal, or other designee may approve the temporary use of incomplete (INC).        |
| P   | Pass (P) may be used for elective courses but may not be awarded for non-elective graduation requirements, unless a student transfers from an unaccredited or international school. |
| WP  | Withdraw (WP) may be used for courses from which a student withdraws during the current semester and receives no course credit.                                                     |
| CDM | Credit by demonstrated mastery (CDM) will be used to reflect earning credit for a course through the CDM process.                                                                   |

Legal References: G.S. 115C-47; State Board of Education Policy GRAD-009

Cross References: Parental Involvement (policy 4002), Goals and Objectives of the Educational Program (policy 3000), Grading and Reporting (regulation 3400-R), Student Promotion and Accountability (policy 3420), Parental Involvement (policy 4002)

Adopted: July 11, 2016

Revised: March 15, 2018 (Legal references only); August 11, 2025; February 9, 2026