

EVERY ASSIGNMENT MATTERS

Helping Your Child Stay on Track This School Year

Beginning with the 2026-2027 school year, a new South Carolina law (House Bill 5073) changes how grades are calculated in every public school district in the state. The goal of this change is simple: a student's grade should reflect the work they actually complete, so families and teachers have an honest picture of student learning.

This handout explains what is changing, what stays the same, and how you can support your child.

WHAT IS CHANGING

- ✓ Required, graded assignments (tests, projects, major class work) must be completed. If any required assignment is not turned in, it will be recorded as a zero. There is no minimum grade used in its place.
- ✓ Homework and other minor, practice-type assignments are different. These support learning but are not treated the same as required assignments when it comes to grade recovery, described below.
- ✓ If your child is struggling with an assignment, missing work, or a due date, contact your teacher immediately to discuss options.

CONTENT AND GRADE RECOVERY

Recovery gives students a path to demonstrate learning they missed the first time. It works in two steps:

- ✓ Step 1 - Completion: A student must first complete the required assignment or coursework within the recovery window their teacher provides.
- ✓ Step 2 - Eligibility: At the end of the grading period, students who have met completion requirements may qualify for grade recovery based on district eligibility guidelines.

Recovery is a path for students who attempted and completed their required coursework but need support raising the grade - it is not available for work that was never attempted or submitted. Your child's teacher can share the specific eligibility criteria that apply to a class or assignment.

STUDENTS WITH AN IEP, 504 PLAN, OR ILAP

These changes do not remove or reduce any accommodations already in place for your child. If your student has an IEP, a Section 504 Plan, or an Individual Learning Achievement Plan (ILAP), please contact your child's case manager with questions about how their plan applies to assignments and grading.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- ✓ Check your child's grades frequently through the PowerSchool Parent Portal.
- ✓ Ask your child what assignments are due this week.
- ✓ Encourage them to attend tutoring or ask for extra help.
- ✓ Remember: small habits lead to big success. One completed assignment today can make a big difference tomorrow.

NEED HELP?

Contact your child's teacher, school counselor, or school administrator. For questions about district grading policy, contact the Office of Academics.

This handout reflects Richland School District Two Board Policy IKADD and its accompanying administrative rule. Visit www.richland2.org for additional resources and district information.