

Important Update on Grading Practices for the 2026 – 2027 School Year

As we begin a new school year, we want to share an important update regarding grading practices that will be implemented in all South Carolina public schools. ***The South Carolina Department of Education has adopted South Carolina's new grading law Act 204 of 2026***, which requires school districts to ensure that student grades accurately reflect academic performance.

What Does This Mean?

Beginning with the 2026-2027 school year:

- Grades will reflect the work a student actually completes.
- Minimum grading floors are no longer permitted for individual assignments or grading periods (nine weeks, semester, or year). Grades will reflect a student's actual performance, which means practices such as automatically assigning a 50 for missing work are no longer allowed.
- Students are expected to complete and submit all required assignments by established deadlines.
- Eligibility for credit recovery and content recovery will depend on the completion of required coursework in accordance with district guideline.

What Students Should Know

Your grades should reflect your learning, effort, and academic achievement. Every assignment provides an opportunity to demonstrate what you know and can do. Attending school regularly, participating in class, completing assignments on time, and seeking help when needed are all essential to your success.

What Families Can Do

We encourage parents and guardians to:

- Review assignments and grades regularly through the Parent Portal
- Encourage daily attendance and active participation in class
- Help your child establish routines for completing assignments on time
- Contact teachers early if your child is struggling academically
- Partner with the school to support your child's success

Our Commitment

At Hampton County School District, although grading practices are changing across South Carolina, our commitment to students remains consistent. We will continue to provide high-quality instruction, meaningful feedback, targeted academic support, and opportunities for every student to grow and achieve. Together with our families, we will ensure that every student is equipped with the knowledge, skills, and confidence needed to succeed in college, careers, and life beyond high school.