

Dear OCSD Families,

At Orangeburg County School District, our commitment is to ensure every student receives a high-quality education that prepares them for success in school and beyond. As part of our district theme, Higher Intentionality, Higher Integrity, Higher Impact (H³), we believe grades should accurately reflect what students know and are able to do.

Beginning with the 2026–2027 school year, South Carolina has implemented a new grading law that changes how schools assign grades and determine eligibility for credit recovery and content recovery opportunities.

What Does This Mean for My Child?

The new law requires that:

- Teachers must assign grades based on a student's actual performance. Schools may no longer require teachers to give a minimum grade that is higher than the work a student has actually earned.
- Students must complete all required assignments in order to be eligible for district-approved credit recovery or content recovery opportunities. Simply failing a course does not automatically qualify a student for recovery.

What Are OCSD's Expectations?

While the law changes certain grading practices, our expectations for student learning remain high.

We expect every student to:

- Attend school regularly.
- Complete and submit all required assignments on time.
- Participate actively in classroom instruction.
- Seek help when they need additional support.
- Take ownership of their learning and academic progress.

We expect every teacher to:

- Provide engaging, high-quality instruction aligned to state standards.
- Give timely and meaningful feedback.
- Offer opportunities for students to learn from mistakes throughout the learning process.
- Communicate regularly with students and families regarding academic progress.

What Can Families Do?

Parents and guardians play a vital role in student success. You can support your child by:

- Monitoring grades regularly through the parent portal.
- Encouraging your child to complete assignments before deadlines.
- Communicating with teachers when concerns arise.
- Helping establish consistent homework and study routines.
- Celebrating growth while reinforcing the importance of responsibility and perseverance.

Our Commitment

Orangeburg County School District believes that grades should be meaningful, honest, and reflective of student learning. This new law reinforces the importance of accountability while ensuring students have every opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge through quality instruction and timely support.



Our goal is not simply for students to earn passing grades—it is for every student to develop the knowledge, skills, and confidence needed for college, careers, and life.

Thank you for your continued partnership in your child's education. Together, we will continue to provide learning experiences grounded in Higher Intentionality, Higher Integrity, and Higher Impact.

Your Partners in Education,

Orangeburg County School District