

Mitchell Middle School ELAC Meeting

Thursday, October 15 2026



FARSI



SPANISH



RUSSIAN

Today's Agenda:

01

Family feedback & survey results overview

02

ELPAC testing- quick snapshot

03

Translating & Sending Messages in Parentsquare

04

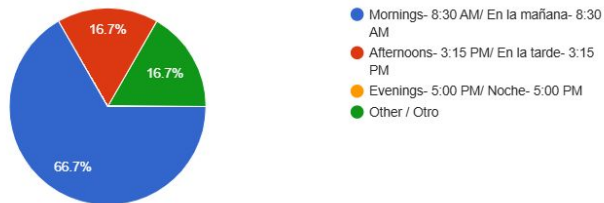
Understanding the Gradebook



Survey Results



Thank you for your feedback!

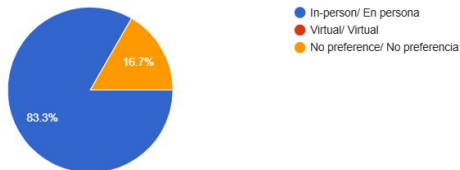


Do you prefer in-person or virtual meetings?

Copy chart

Usted prefiere la junta en persona o en forma virtual?

6 responses



Meeting Time

66% of you requested meeting in the mornings, and
83% prefer to meet in-person

Thank you for your feedback!

#1 Focus

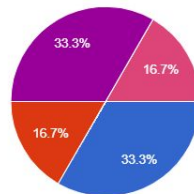
You named supporting students with their academics and information on ELPAC testing as your primary concerns

What do you see as the **primary focus** or concern area for ELAC meetings?

[Copy chart](#)

Cual es el enfoque o asunto principal para la juntas ELAC?

6 responses



- ELPAC testing information and support / Información y ayuda para el examen...
- Understanding student English Learner programs and services at our school / ...
- How to support my child's learning at home / Como apoyar el aprendizaje d...
- Learning about school and community...
- Supporting students with their academ...
- Opportunities for families to share thei...
- Other / Otro

#2 Focus

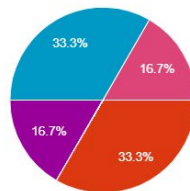
You named understanding EL programming and opportunities to share your concerns as your secondary focus

What do you see as the **second priority focus** or concern area for ELAC meetings?

[Copy chart](#)

Cual es el enfoque o asunto secundario para la juntas ELAC?

6 responses



- ELPAC testing information and support / Información y ayuda para el examen...
- Understanding student EL programs and services at our school / Entender más...
- How to support my child's learning at home / Como apoyar el aprendizaje d...
- Learning about school and community...
- Supporting students with their academ...
- Opportunities for families to share thei...
- Other / Otro



02

ELPAC Test– A quick Overview



What is the ELPAC test?

ELPAC = English Language Proficiency Assessments
for California

ELPAC is a state test given to all students
in California who are English Learners. It
measures their proficiency in the English
language



What is on the test?

The test has FOUR parts:

1. Speaking
2. Listening
3. Reading
4. Writing

These are also the skills your student is practicing in their English Language Development Class



How is the test scored?

Students receive a score between 1-4, which averages all four of the skill tests.

1	Beginning: This student is just beginning to know and understand English.
2	Developing: This student is showing growth, but still has more to learn.
3	Approaching: This student has almost developed all of their language skills in English
4	Proficient: This student is now fluent in English. This score is the goal!



When will my student take the test?

Testing happens between February and April—the effort they put in now is what will help them be successful when testing time arrives.



How do I know my student's score?

A report will be mailed home. You can also access digital copies through Powerschool on a desktop computer.

Today, we can look up your student's score reports for you.



03

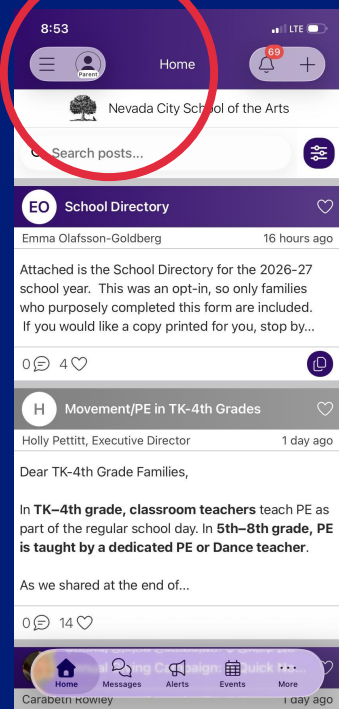
Parentsquare Language



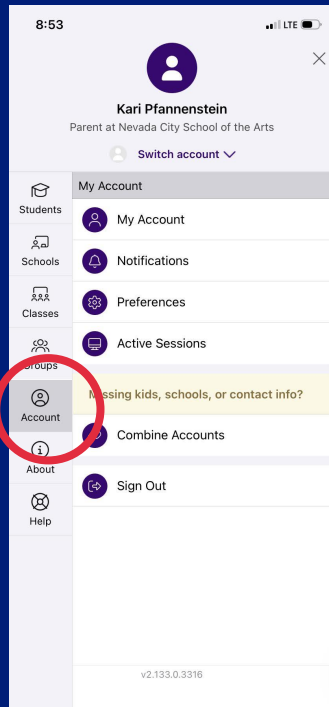
**Parentsquare is an excellent
communication tool! AND it's not helpful
if you can't access it in your primary
language.**



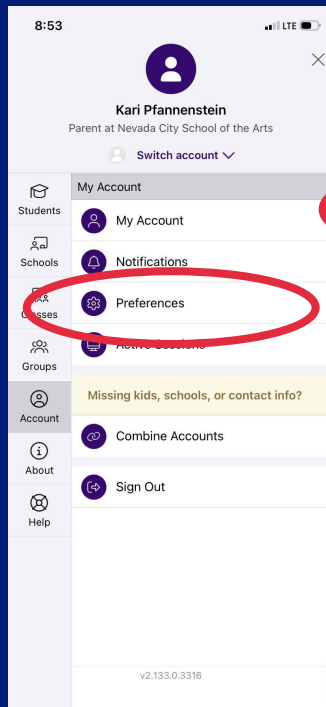
Changing the Language



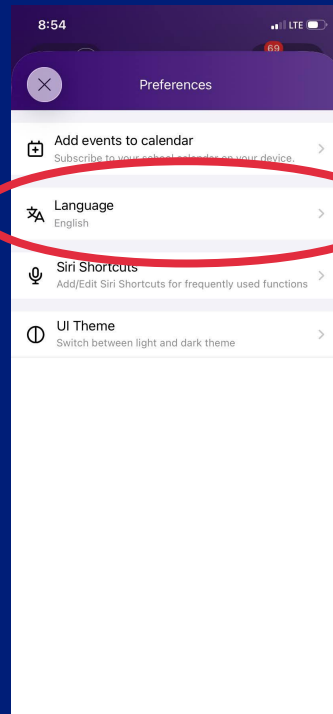
**Open Parentsquare
and click the three
lines in the upper
right corner**



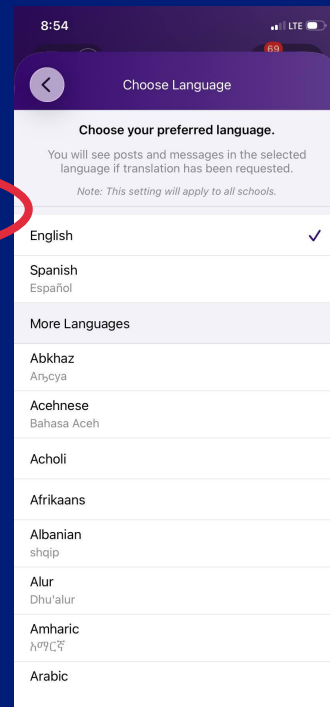
Click "Account"



Click "Preferences"



Click "Language"



**Choose your
language!**



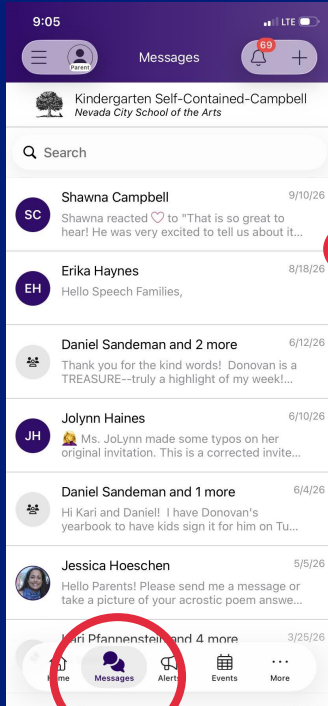


02

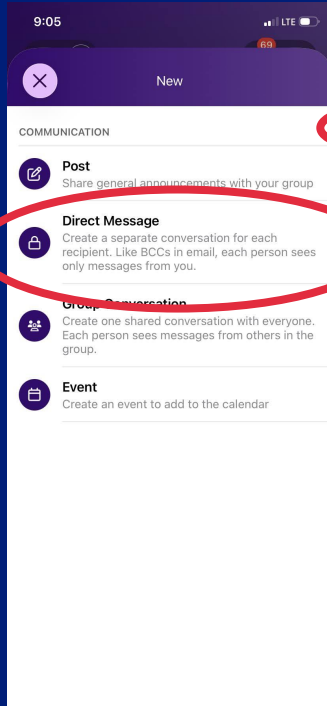
Sending & Reading Messages



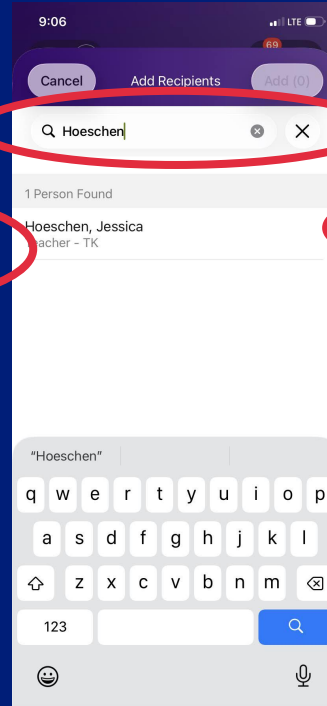
How to send a message to a teacher



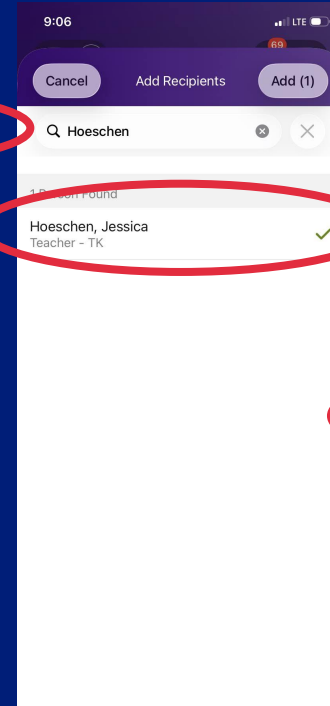
Click "Messages"



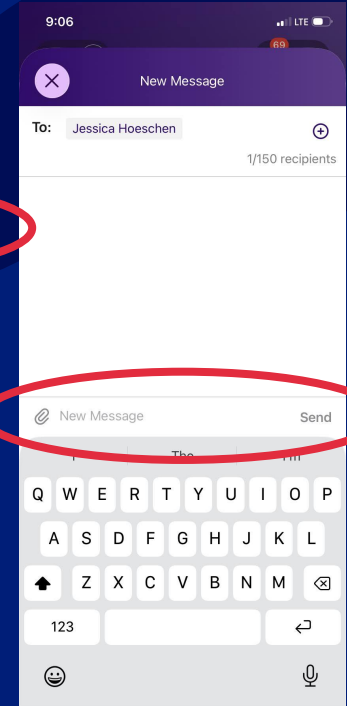
Click "Direct Message"



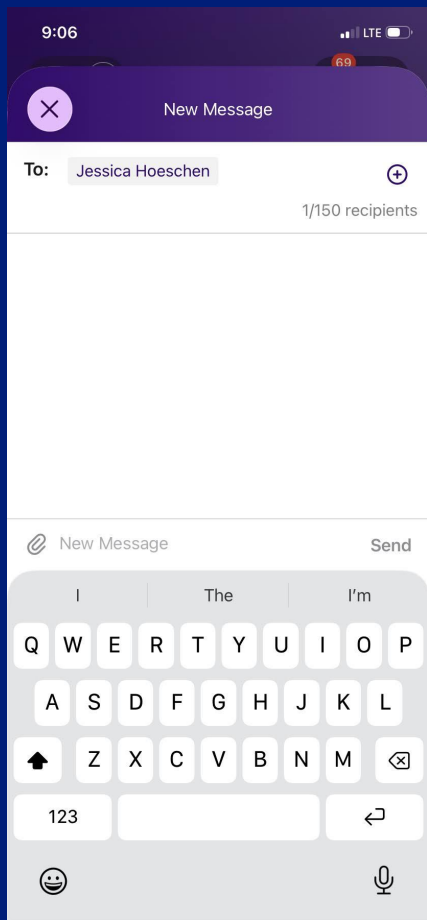
Search for teacher's name



Select the teacher



Type them a message!



**When sending a message,
you can write in any
language. Parentsquare will
translate it for the teacher!**





03

Academic Support Workshops



Workshop Choices:

1

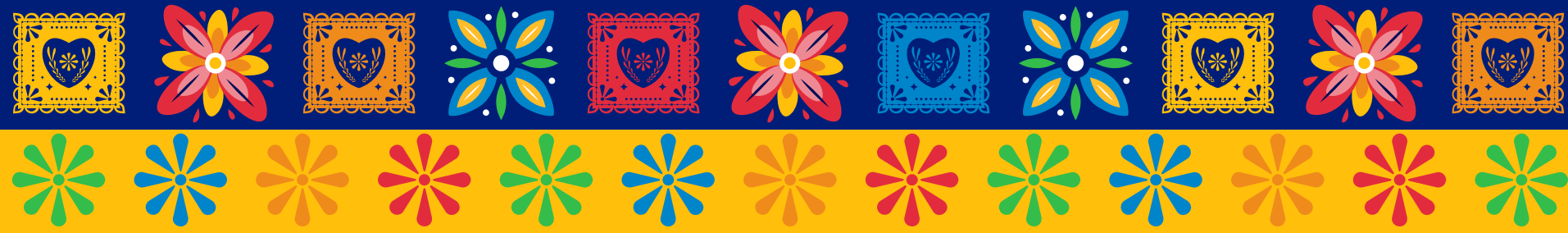
Understanding the Gradebook

Learn how to use Powerschool to view assignments and understand how your student is graded in their classes

2

Using Parentsquare to communicate and supporting English learning at home

Learn how to use Parentsquare to communicate with teachers and the school, and ways you can build your students' English skills at home



Workshop #1: Understanding the Gradebook



Have your Powerschool App ready! Our team
can help you download it if you don't have it yet





Seeing class assignments



Powerschool: Beyond the home screen

PowerSchool SIS

Welcome, [User] | Help | Site Map | Sign Out

Navigation

- Grades and Attendance
- Reports
- School Directory
- Email Notification
- Class Registration
- Account Preferences

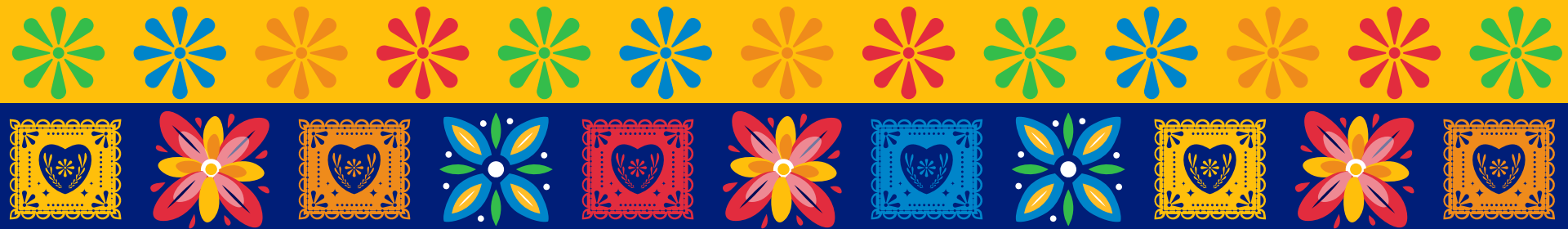
Grades and Attendance: [Progress Bar]

Grades and Attendance

Exp	Last Week					This Week					Course	Attendance By Class							Absences	Tardies
	M	T	W	H	F	M	T	W	H	F		T1	E1	S1	T2	E2	S2			
1(A)	-	-	-	-	-						Hebrew Scriptures Email	A 94	[1]	A 94						
2(A)	-	-	-	T	-						P Science and the Environment Email	D- 62	[1]	D- 62				2	1	
3(A)	-	-	-	-	-						P Spanish 1 Email	D+ 67	[1]	D+ 67				2	0	
4(A)	-	-	-	-	-						Flex Period Grade 9 S1 Email	[1]	[1]	[1]				2	0	

 View Assignments

All blue is clickable



Now you can see all of the assignments in the Gradebook for this class!

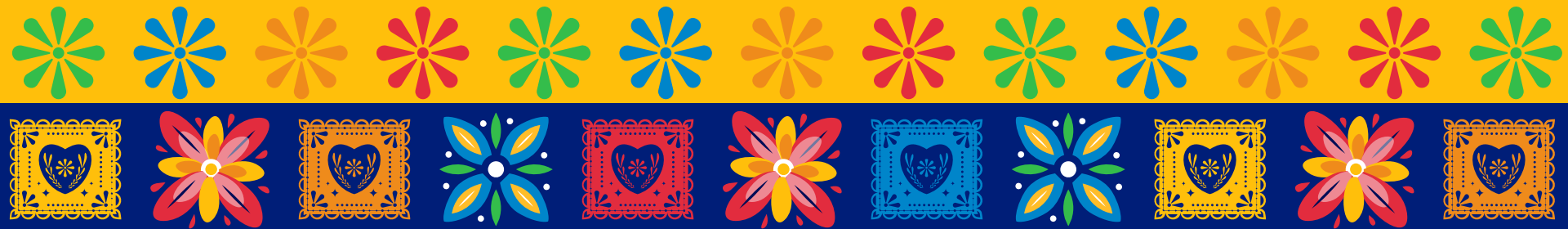
CATEGORY	ASSIGNMENTS	SCORED	DUE DATE ▼
Crit	1.Fall of Rome, Summative, DBQ (Crit B)	0 / 34	9/11/2026
Crit	2.Fall of Rome, Summative, TBEAR analysis (Crit D)	0 / 34	9/11/2026
Crit	3.Fall of Rome, Summative, TBEAR outline (Crit C)	0 / 34	9/11/2026
Crit	4.Fall of Rome, Summative, TBEAR (topic) (Crit A)	0 / 34	9/8/2026
Form	5.Fall of Rome, Formative 2, TBEAR (Crit A)	34 / 34 ✓	9/3/2026
Form	6.Fall of Rome, Formative 2, TBEAR (Crit C)	34 / 34 ✓	9/3/2026
Form	7.Fall of Rome, Formative 2, TBEAR (Crit D)	34 / 34 ✓	9/3/2026
Form	8.Fall of Rome, Formative 2, DBQ/Peardeck (Crit B)	34 / 34 ✓	9/1/2026
Form	9.Fall of Rome, Formative 1, Map Citation (Crit C)	33 / 34	8/27/2026
Crit	10.B2S, Summative Criterion A Timelines	34 / 34 ✓	8/21/2026
Form	11.B2S, Formative 1, Timeline Review (Criterion A)	33 / 34	8/18/2026
Form	12.B2S, Formative 2, Timeline Review (Criterion D)	33 / 34	8/18/2026

But what do these scores actually mean?



Formatives vs. Summatives





What is the difference between a formative and a summative?

You can think of grades and learning like being on a sports team.

Formative = the practice. This is where students are in the process of learning. The teacher gives these practices scores so that we can see how the student is doing. This helps us understand what they already know and what they need to work on before “game day.” Formative assignments are NOT counted toward the student’s letter grade.

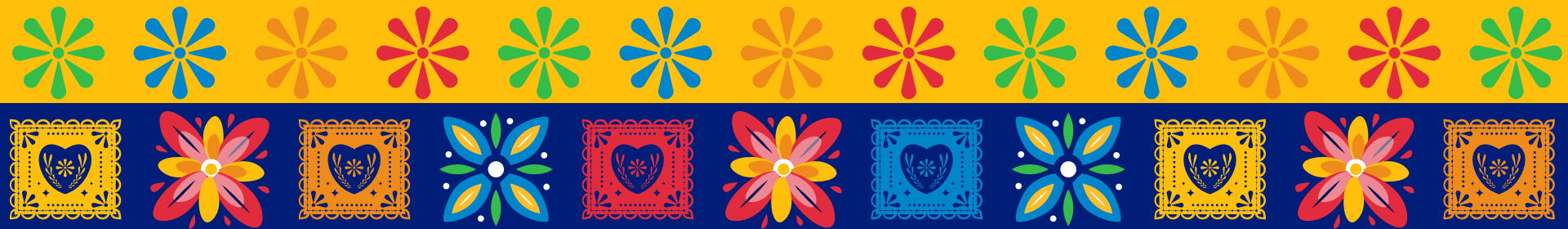
Form



Summative = the big game. This is where students show what they have learned. It’s where they put all of the skills they practiced in their formatives into action. Summative assignments ARE counted toward the student’s letter grade.

Crit





In the gradebook, we can see our student's progression

CATEGORY	ASSIGNMENTS	SCORED	DUE DATE
Crit	1.Fall of Rome, Summative, DBQ (Crit B)	0 / 34	9/11/2026
Crit	2.Fall of Rome, Summative, TBEAR analysis (Crit D)	0 / 34	9/11/2026
Crit	3.Fall of Rome, Summative, TBEAR outline (Crit C)	0 / 34	9/11/2026
Crit	4.Fall of Rome, Summative, TBEAR (topic) (Crit A)	0 / 34	9/8/2026
Form	5.Fall of Rome, Formative 2, TBEAR (Crit A)	34 / 34 ✓	9/3/2026
Form	6.Fall of Rome, Formative 2, TBEAR (Crit C)	34 / 34 ✓	9/3/2026
Form	7.Fall of Rome, Formative 2, TBEAR (Crit D)	34 / 34 ✓	9/3/2026
Form	8.Fall of Rome, Formative 2, DBQ/Peardeck (Crit B)	34 / 34 ✓	9/1/2026
Form	9.Fall of Rome, Formative 1, Map Citation (Crit C)	33 / 34	8/27/2026
Crit	10.B2S, Summative Criterion A Timelines	34 / 34 ✓	8/21/2026
Form	11.B2S, Formative 1, Timeline Review (Criterion A)	33 / 34	8/18/2026
Form	12.B2S, Formative 2, Timeline Review (Criterion D)	33 / 34	8/18/2026

The unit has FOUR summative grades. That means there were FOUR activities where the student showed what they learned and were graded on their knowledge.

The fall of Rome unit has FIVE formatives. That means the student had five practice activities in this unit.



03

Understanding Scores





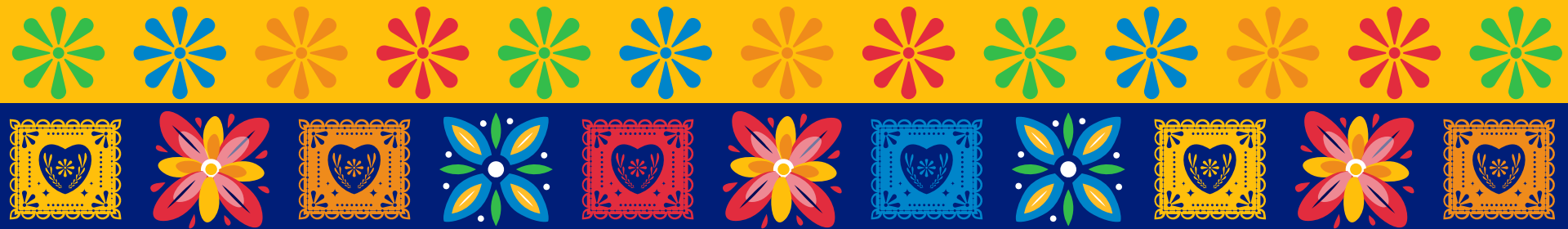
What do the scores I see in the gradebook mean?

Our school uses the International Baccalaureate grading system.

ALL assignments for ALL classes are scored out of 8 points.

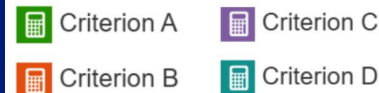
We want your student here!
This score means your student's work is
on GRADE LEVEL

SCORE	Description	Grade
0	Work is missing or there is not enough evidence to grade.	F
1-2	Work is below grade level standards.	D
3-4	Work is approaching grade level standards	C-B
5-6	Work is meeting grade level standards	B-A
7-8	Work is exceeding grade level standards	A

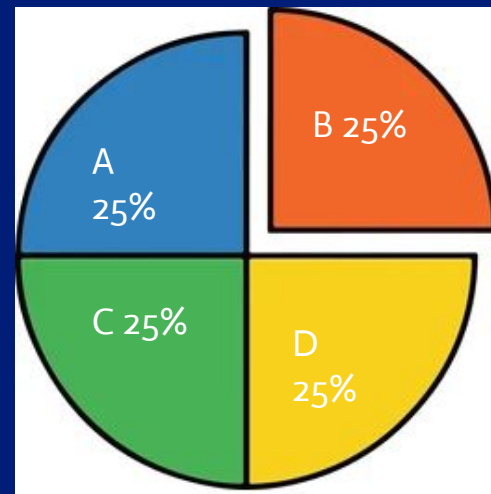


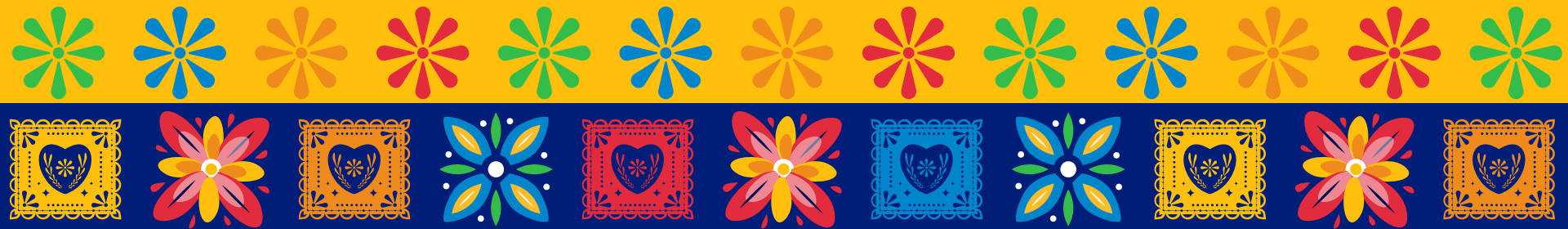
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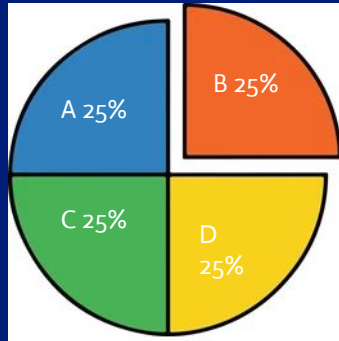
4 Criteria	Each class has FOUR criteria they grade under. They are different for each class, but their main purpose is to divide the learning into different skills. For example KNOWLEDGE (recalling facts or information) EVALUATION (reflecting on a subject or work), or CREATING (producing or making a product).
25%	Each Criterion is worth 25% of your students grade. This means certain assignments might have a bigger impact on your student's grade than others.





Count the Colors!

 Criterion A	 Criterion C
 Criterion B	 Criterion D



CATEGORY
 Crit
 Crit
 Crit
 Crit
 Form
 Form
 Form
 Form
 Form
 Form
 Crit
 Form
 Form

The MORE of a Crit (criterion) color you see, the LESS impact each assignment will have on your student's final grade.

For example, there are TWO GREEN Crit colors here. That means that these two assignments will AVERAGE for the Criterion C grade. But there is only ONE purple color. That means that assignment alone counts for 25% of the student's grade. The PURPLE assignment will have more impact!

Citizenship Grades

The other information you can see in the gradebook is your student's CITIZENSHIP grade.

This is NOT an academic grade. Instead, it reflects the habits, choices, and behaviors your student makes in class.

These grades can be very helpful in understanding how your student is engaging in their classes



Citizenship Grades

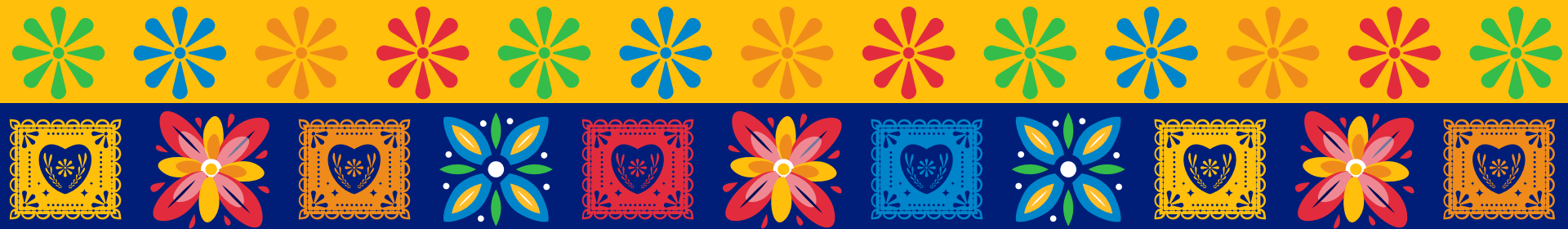
	Description:
O	Outstanding: This score reflects exceptional student choices. They attend class regularly, participate actively, and meet expectations consistently. They might also go above and beyond in establishing and maintaining a positive classroom culture. They are willing to help others, seek out guidance and feedback, and take an active role in their own learning.
S	Satisfactory: This score is for students who demonstrate overall consistency with their choices and behaviors. They are meeting class expectations and complete their classwork the majority of the time, and do not need regular supports from the teacher or their peers for making good or appropriate choices in class.
N	Needs Improvement: These students have some growth areas in their habits and choices in class. They might struggle with one or two key areas. For example, they might be regularly late to class, struggle to raise their hand instead of blurting out, or regularly need a 1:1 reminder to begin their work. They might have a fairly even mixture of good days and difficult days, and would likely be more successful in the classroom space if they made some changes to their choices.
U	Unsatisfactory: This student needs significant and regular support with their in-class habits and choices. They might actively disregard feedback from both teacher and peers, miss significant amounts of class time, or regularly jeopardize the learning environment with their behaviors. These students' habits and choices noticeably impact their ability to learn and be successful, and often also impact the ability of others to learn as well.



Citizenship + Letter Grade = Bigger Picture

Student #1	D O	This student's letter grade is a D, but their citizenship grade is an O. This tells us this student is putting forth their best effort in class, but is struggling academically. Even though they have a low grade, they are trying hard and putting in the effort and work.
Student #2	D U	This student's letter grade is also a D, but their citizenship grade is a U. This tells us this student is making daily choices in class that negatively impact their learning. This student's grade is probably due to their behavior more than their understanding of the content.





To Summarize!

FORMATIVE		“Practice”	NOT counted toward letter grade	Scored out of 8 points.
SUMMATIVE		“Game day”	Counts toward grade	
CRITERION		Skill Category	4 criteria for each class	Each criteria counts for 25% of your student’s grade
CITIZENSHIP O S N U		Habits & Behaviors Grade	NOT counted toward grade	Reflects student choices in class

Let's Look Together!

PowerSchool SIS

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Navigation

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- Class Registration
- Account Preferences

Grades and Attendance: [Progress Bar]

Grades and Attendance

Exp	Last Week					This Week					Course	Attendance By Class							Absences	Tardies
	M	T	W	H	F	M	T	W	H	F		T1	E1	S1	T2	E2	S2			
1(A)	-	-	-	-	-						Hebrew Scriptures	A	94	[i]	A	94				
2(A)	-	-	-	T	-						P Science and the Environment	D-	62	[i]	D-	62	2	1		
3(A)	-	-	-	-	-						P Spanish 1	D+	67	[i]	D+	67	2	0		
											Flex Period Grade 9 S1	[i]	[i]	[i]			2	0		

 View Assignments

All blue is clickable

Take some time to open Powerschool and view your student's assignments. We are here to help answer any questions