

SOMERS HIGH SCHOOL

Planned Changes to SHS Grade Reporting

What Would Change & Why It Matters

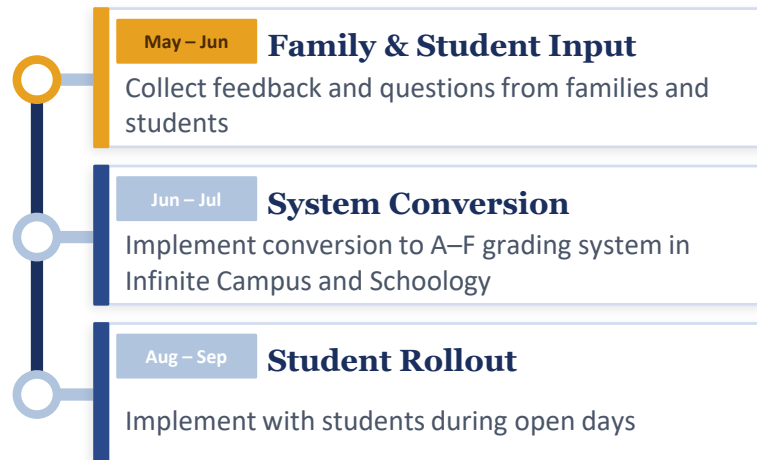
Clear, consistent language around grading that students, parents, colleges, and employers can easily understand



Our Process



Completed Current Upcoming



A–F Grading Scale

GPA point values by course level, with 100-point conversion reference

Grade	Unweighted	Honors / DE	AP / IB	100-pt Scale
A+	4.33	4.66	5.00	97–100
A	4.00	4.33	4.66	93–96
A–	3.66	4.00	4.33	90–92
B+	3.33	3.66	4.00	87–89
B	3.00	3.33	3.66	83–86
B–	2.66	3.00	3.33	80–82
C+	2.33	2.66	3.00	77–79
C	2.00	2.33	2.66	73–76
C–	1.66	2.00	2.33	70–72
D+	1.33	1.66	2.00	67–69
D	1.00	1.33	1.66	65–66
F	0.00	0.00	0.00	< 65

Unweighted Standard courses

Honors / DE Honors & Dual Enrollment

AP / IB Advanced Placement & IB

Class of 2027

- **No change to transcript** sent to colleges this year
- A-F grading for the '26-'27 school year and reported to colleges at mid-year and end of year
- Final transcript will reflect new grading system

* Notation will be sent to colleges with this change

Classes of '28-'30 and beyond

- Transcript posted to backpack in August will reflect new system
- A-F grading for the '26-'27 school year
- Future transcripts will reflect new grading system

Why change the way grades are reported?



Less focus and stress on the numbers and greater focus on the learning



Create a more streamlined grading system that measures application of knowledge and skills, not just content mastery.



Utilize a more balanced scale

Letters are averaged on a 0-4 scale, instead of 0-100



Align with college GPA scales

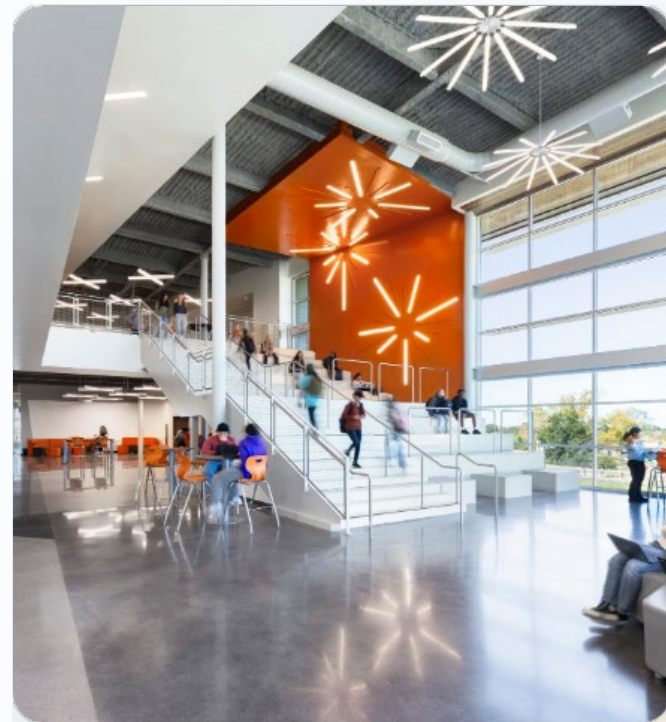
Math vs. Myth: An F is still a zero

Somers Record

"Students at Somers High School could no longer receive zeros for missed assignments under a proposed grading system overhaul."

✓ Policy Reality

An F is still a zero. Consequences and accountability remain. The difference is that the new scale fixes a mathematical flaw: on the 100-point scale, failing grades represent the majority (64%) of the scale. On a 4.0 scale, an F is a 0.0 and 1/5th of the scale — a more proportionate penalty. Teachers may be more likely to assign a zero knowing it would be a mathematically sound and fair representation on a 4.0 scale.



Focus on Skills & Mastery



We believe a percentage grade does not offer a clearer indication of a student's level of learning over a letter grade.



A letter grade encourages a greater focus on mastery of skills and content, versus earning points. Student focus on point management could create greater grade anxiety and distract from learning.



2. UNIFIED LANGUAGE AND ALIGNMENT



Program Integration

Our school utilizes diverse frameworks including MYP, IB DP, EBG, and AP. Each has its own internal scale.



Reporting Clarity

An A-F scale brings these disparate systems into alignment for final reporting, creating a consistent language for families and colleges.



Universal Standards

Alignment ensures our internal rigor translates to external post-secondary expectations and admissions standards.

The many grade scales of Somers HS

MYP	
Grades 6–10 Scale: 1–8	
7–8	Excellent
5–6	Substantial
3–4	Developing
1–2	Beginning

IB DP	
Grades 11–12 Scale: 1–7	
7	Excellent
6	Very Good
5	Good
4	Satisfactory
3	Mediocre
2	Poor
1	Very Poor

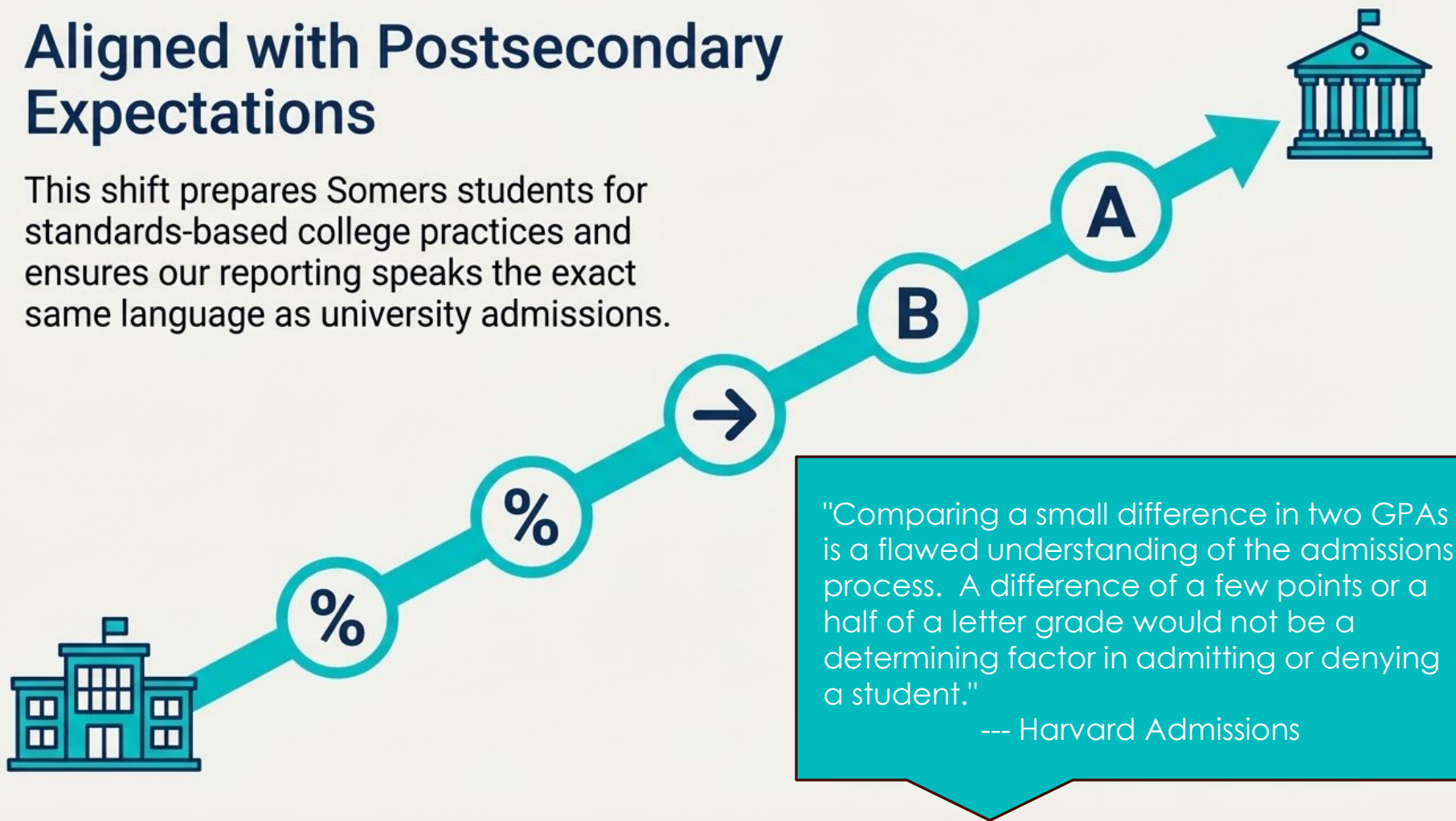
AP	
All Levels Scale: 1–5	
5	Extremely Qualified
4	Well Qualified
3	Qualified
2	Possibly Qualified
1	No Recommendation

Evidence Based	
Proficiency Scale	
RP	Refined Proficiency
P	Proficiency
AP	Approaching Proficiency
DP	Developing Proficiency
ME	Missing Evidence
NE	No Evidence

Scales shown reflect descriptors used across different program levels at Somers High School

Aligned with Postsecondary Expectations

This shift prepares Somers students for standards-based college practices and ensures our reporting speaks the exact same language as university admissions.



"Comparing a small difference in two GPAs is a flawed understanding of the admissions process. A difference of a few points or a half of a letter grade would not be a determining factor in admitting or denying a student."

--- Harvard Admissions

Sample Report Cards

SOMERS SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

120 Primrose Street
Lincolndale, NY 10540
(914)248-8585

2025 - 2026 Quarter 1 Report Card
Grade: 09 Counselor:

GPA Summary:

Term GPA	Q1
Unweighted	94.143

Attendance Summary By Term:

Course	Absent	Tardy
314 Algebra	3	1
018 Humanities-English 9	3	0
106 Humanities-Global 9	2	0
626 Jazz Band H	0	0
1995 Physical Ed 9	2	0
257 PLTW:Prncpls-Biomed Sci-H DE	3	0
421 Spanish 2	2	1
9001 Study Hall	5	0
611 Symphonic Band	2	0
101 Tusker 101	1	0

Grade Report:

Course	Task	Q1
1) 018-34 Humanities-English 9 [Braz, Agostino]	Marking Period	96
5) 101-85 Tusker 101 [Timone, Anna]	Marking Period	P
3) 106-34 Humanities-Global 9 [Agostino, Braz]	Marking Period	96
6) 1995-7 Physical Ed 9 [Sokolofsky, Michael]	Marking Period	99
4) 257-87 PLTW:Prncpls-Biomed Sci-H DE [Woolsey, Melissa]	Marking Period	93
4) 314-5 Algebra [Kerrigan, Lindsey]	Marking Period	87
2) 421-2 Spanish 2 [Saffioti, Joseph]	Marking Period	89
1) 611-1 Symphonic Band [Reynolds, Terry]	Marking Period	99
Acad) 626-1 Jazz Band H [Reynolds, Terry]	Marking Period	99

Students who received a Term GPA of 84.50-89.49 have made the Honor Roll and students who have received an 89.50 or above have made the High Honor Roll.

SOMERS SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

120 Primrose Street
Lincolndale, NY 10540
(914)248-8585

2025 - 2026 Quarter 1 Report Card
Grade: 09 Counselor:

GPA Summary:

Term GPA	Q1
Unweighted	4.04

Attendance Summary By Term:

Course	Absent	Tardy
314 Algebra	3	1
018 Humanities-English 9	3	0
106 Humanities-Global 9	2	0
626 Jazz Band H	0	0
1995 Physical Ed 9	2	0
257 PLTW:Prncpls-Biomed Sci-H DE	3	0
421 Spanish 2	2	1
9001 Study Hall	5	0
611 Symphonic Band	2	0
101 Tusker 101	1	0

Grade Report:

Course	Task	Q1
1) 018-34 Humanities-English 9 [Braz, Agostino]	Marking Period	A
5) 101-85 Tusker 101 [Timone, Anna]	Marking Period	P
3) 106-34 Humanities-Global 9 [Agostino, Braz]	Marking Period	A
6) 1995-7 Physical Ed 9 [Sokolofsky, Michael]	Marking Period	A+
4) 257-87 PLTW:Prncpls-Biomed Sci-H DE [Woolsey, Melissa]	Marking Period	A
7) 314-5 Algebra [Kerrigan, Lindsey]	Marking Period	B+
2) 421-2 Spanish 2 [Saffioti, Joseph]	Marking Period	B+
1) 611-1 Symphonic Band [Reynolds, Terry]	Marking Period	A+
Acad) 626-1 Jazz Band H [Reynolds, Terry]	Marking Period	A+

A–F Grading Scale

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How is this system already used at SHS?

Biology Quiz: Stability and Change in Ecosystems

	Raw Score	MYP Score
Skill A: Knowing and Understanding		
Skill D: Reflecting on the Implications of Science in Society	MYP Score	

Conversion Chart for Question #1-10 (Skill A)

Raw Score	MYP Score
10	8
9.5	7
8.5 - 9	6
7.5 - 8	5
6.5 - 7	4
5.5 - 6	3
4 - 5	2
2 - 3.5	1
< 2	0

Wholistic Score for Questions #11-15 (Skill D)

Explain the ways in which science is applied and used to address a specific problem or issue.

- **Evaluate** the implications of scientific developments and their applications to a specific problem or issue.
- **Apply** scientific language.

Thoroughly reflect on the implication of science, interacting with economic or environmental factors.



Cornell University

Armen Abrahamian

Admissions Counselor

Class of '24

ADMISSIONS FEEDBACK

“

We don't consider GPAs directly nor recalculate them — we are looking at the courses taken, their rigor, and the grades earned in them. These sort of changes [from 0-100 to A-F] would not affect your students' reviews in our process as long as we have an understanding of the rigor of your course offerings.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

GPAs are not directly compared or recalculated

Course rigor and grades earned matter most

School context and course offerings are key

This change will not affect student reviews



Clemson University

Jonathan Smith

Admissions Counselor,
Undergraduate Admissions

Class of '21

ADMISSIONS FEEDBACK

“

We review students within the context of the high school they attend, so any changes you make do not negatively affect the student as long as they remain within the school's context. It all depends on the school's context and curriculum — there is no set range or minimum students must meet across the country.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

Students are reviewed within their school's context

No set GPA range or minimum across the country

Weighting is also viewed within school context

Changes do not negatively affect students

A

Auburn University

Stella Wannemuehler

Admissions Advisor,
New York Region

ADMISSIONS FEEDBACK

“

An A–F grading scale on a 4.0 system will not affect our ability to review transcripts, nor will it impact their competitiveness in our admissions pool. We recalculate GPAs giving honors and AP classes a half point extra, regardless of the school's grading system.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

A–F on a 4.0 system does not affect transcript review

No impact on competitiveness in admissions pool

Auburn recalculates GPAs using their own system

Honors/AP weight applied regardless of school system