

HIGH SCHOOL GRADING GUIDELINES

Grading Statement

The School District of De Soto' administration and faculty believe that good communication between parents and teachers as well as teacher and student is important in the educational process. Our goal is to establish a flow of communication that will provide feedback and guidance so that each student may achieve to the degree that his/her talent will allow. The grading will reflect each student's degree of learning.

Grading Guidelines

The reporting process should:

- Be multifaceted, not relying on any one form of communication with parents or students, and should be both regular and spontaneous, including the following: conferences, report cards, progress report, telephone calls, notes, etc.
- Provide for having report cards issued each of the four terms or the 36 week school year.
- Provide for teachers to give students continual feedback on the quality of work as it relates to course objectives.
- Reflect the school's desire to strive for consistency in grading and reporting.
- Reflect the school's philosophy of computing grades based on academic progress (which will be affected by attitude, effort, behavior, and attendance).
- Allow teachers to provide written instructional objectives and evaluation measures to each student at the beginning of the course. It should also allow for teachers' grades to reflect his/her professional judgment of student achievement. Teachers will avail themselves to students who have questions about their grades.
- Allow teachers to use their judgment on individual tests or assignments and the procedures for scoring said tests or assignment.
- Allow for all assignments, tests, quizzes, etc. to be evaluated, returned promptly, and reviewed with students before the next related test is administered.
- Allow all students a reasonable opportunity, that should not exceed 4 school days, to make up missed examinations.
- Allow all student two weeks to complete assignments/tests to remove an "incomplete" grade. Extenuating circumstances can lead to modification of the two-week deadlines.
- Provide for grade point averages by semester of classes taken at De Soto High School and credits earned by transfer students according to the Class Rank Policy. Any contention about transferred credits at De Soto High School will be resolved by a grade policy committee consisting of the principal, guidance counselor, and a faculty member.
- Provide for the inclusion of college or technical school credits in a student's high school transcript only if he/she is enrolled in an approved program as determined by the grade policy committee.

Grading Guidelines

The definition of letter grade is stated in the following:

A = Advanced Proficient	(outstanding progress)
B = Proficient	(above average progress)
C = Basic	(average progress)
D = Minimal	(lowest acceptable progress)
F = Failing	(failure-no credit)

The recommended Percentage grading scale is as follows:

A+ 99 - 100		For Pass/Fail courses the following Marks will be used:		
A 92 – 98.999				
A- 90 – 91.999			PR – Advanced Proficient and Proficient	80 and above
B+ 88 – 89.999			BC - Basic	60 – 79.999
B 82 – 87.999			MF – Minimal / Failing	Below 60
B- 80 – 81.999				
C+ 78 – 79.999				
C 72 – 78.999				
C- 70 – 71.999				
D+ 68 – 69.999				
D 62 – 67.999				
D- 60 – 61.999				
F Below 60				

The final grades for a 1/2 credit class will be determined at the end of each semester.

Only final grades are used in calculating grade point average. Reports of student progress do not affect cumulative grade point average.

End of Semester Culminating Assessment Guidelines

- All teachers will give culminating final assessments of all students. The assessment process may include but will not be limited to final exams (written or oral), exit conferences, portfolio self assessment, final research project presentations, etc.
- The final culminating activity must be based on stated objectives of the course and Board approved curriculum.
- Students are to be afforded an opportunity to discuss end of semester results and final grades with their teachers during the school year.
- To calculate the final grade for each class, the following calculation will be used:
Each quarter will be 42.5% of the final semester grade and the culminating final assessment will be 15% of the final semester grade.

Calculation of Grades

The honor roll will be published every quarter.

To determine the Academic Excellence Scholarship:

All course work is used in determining the Academic Excellence Scholarship

At graduation, gold tassels go to students who are honor students maintaining a grade point average of 3.000-3.499. Gold cords go to students that have achieved high honors and have maintained a 3.500 or higher grade point average.

CROSS REF: 461, Academic Excellence Scholarship Policy

APPROVED: April 23, 2007
