

INSTRUCTION

STUDENT PLACEMENT AND EVALUATION

GRADES AND EVALUATION OF STUDENTS

The Board of Education believes that grades serve a valuable instructional purpose by helping students and parents/guardians identify the student's areas of strength and those areas needing improvement. Parents/guardians and students have the right to receive course grades that represent an accurate evaluation of the student's achievement.

The teacher of each course shall determine the student's grade. The grade assigned by the teacher shall not be changed by the Board or the Superintendent except as provided by law, Board policy and administrative regulation (Education Code 49066).

Teachers shall evaluate a student's work in relation to standards which apply to all students at his/her grade level, and in compliance with accommodations and modifications as included on the student's IEP. The Superintendent or designee shall establish and regularly evaluate a uniform grading system, and principals shall ensure that student grades conform to this system. Teachers shall inform students and parents/guardians how student achievement will be evaluated in the classroom.

Grades should be based on impartial, consistent observation of the quality of the student's work and his/her mastery of course content and objectives. Students shall have the opportunity to demonstrate this mastery through a variety of methods such as classroom participation, homework, tests, and portfolios.

Legal References: Education Codes 48070, 48205, 48431.6, 49066-49067, 51220.3

Revised: November 19, 2002 (6/20/95; Adopted: 8/19/80)

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The grading system used in the Corona-Norco Unified School District is listed below:

A. Grades 1-3

Achievement:

- O – Outstanding
- S – Satisfactory
- N – Needs Improvement

B. Grades 4-6

1. Achievement in Core Subjects:

- A – Superior Grade Level Achievement
- B – Above Average Grade Level Achievement
- C – Average Grade Level Achievement
- D – Below Grade Level Achievement
- F – Failing Grade Level Achievement

2. Achievement in Other Subjects:

- O – Outstanding
- S – Satisfactory
- N – Needs Improvement

C. Grades 7-12

Achievement:

- A – Superior Grade Level Achievement
- B – Above Average Grade Level Achievement
- C – Average Grade Level Achievement
- D – Below Grade Level Achievement
- F – Failing Grade Level Achievement
- Inc. – Incomplete

D. Grades for Citizenship and Effort

These shall be reported for each marking period as follows:

- O – Excellent Behavior
- S – Acceptable Behavior
- N – Improved Behavior Needed
- U – Unacceptable Behavior – Improvement Required

E. Grade Weighting, Grades 7-12

In computing grade point average, regular courses in grades 7-12 shall be computed on the following four-point scale:

- A = 4 grade points
- B = 3 grade points
- C = 2 grade points
- D = 1 grade point
- F = 0 grade points

F. Grade Weighting for Advanced Placement/Honors Courses, Grades 9-12

Beginning in the 2015-2016 year, extra grade weighting (5.0 GPA Scale) shall be assigned to a 10th, 11th, or 12th grade course eligible for honors weighting according to the University of California if the Superintendent or designee has submitted the course curriculum to the University of California Office of the President and the course required for approval has received approval with honors distinction. Honors weighted courses submitted for UC approval in the spring prior to the course being offered will be based on a 5.0 GPA scale for purposes of credits awarded by the District. In the event that any honors weighted course submitted for UC approval in spring is not approved by the UC, students will continue to earn credits on a 5.0 GPA scale for District purposes in the school year immediately following submission, but such courses will not appear as honors courses or be weighted in the UC GPA calculation in a student's UC or CSU application. CSU or UC transferrable college courses will also receive credit on a 5.0 GPA scale.

- A = 5 grade points
- B = 4 grade points
- C = 3 grade points
- D = 1 grade point
- F = 0 grade point

The following statement will be added to the District's course catalog during the grace period:

*This course has not yet been approved by the UC for designation as an honors weighted course for purposes of UC and CSU admissions. As such, although it is currently graded on a weighted AP/Honors five-point scale, students should be advised that the UC or CSU may recalculate this grade upon receiving the student's application for admission.

G. Pass/Fail Grading

The Superintendent or designee may identify courses or programs for which students may, with parent/guardian permission, elect to earn a Pass or Fail grade instead of an A-F grade.

Students who receive a Pass grade shall acquire the appropriate semester units of credit for the course. The grade is not calculated in a student's grade point average and shall not be counted in determining class rank, honors list, or membership in the California Scholarship Federation. Students who receive a Fail grade shall not receive credit for taking the course.

H. Peer Grading

At their discretion, teachers may use peer grading of student tests, papers and assignments as appropriate to reinforce lessons.

I. Progress Notices

At the fifth and fourteenth week of each semester, teachers will complete an "In Danger of Fail Notice" for each student who is in danger of failing a class. A "D" or "F" grade on the quarter progress reports also serves as a notification of impending failure. After the fourteenth week, parents of any student who is in danger of failing shall be notified either in writing or through a documented conference whenever it becomes evident to the teacher that the pupil is in danger of failing a course. Such notification should be made to the parent long enough before the end of the semester so that the student has adequate time to achieve a passing grade in the course.

J. General Provisions

No single assignment will extend for a period longer than the number of weeks constituting a school quarter; no single assignment or test will compute to more than 25% of a quarterly or semester grade. The evaluation of student achievement shall be determined on a cumulative basis of all work assigned.

Teachers shall assist students to make up any assignments not completed because of excused absences, including suspensions; specific plans for make-up work shall be established as Independent Study. Incomplete grades will become failing grades if required work is not completed by the end of the quarter following the issuance of the incomplete grade.

Teachers shall also assist students to make up assignments not completed because of absences from class for school sponsored activities, including extracurricular activities, ASB activities, etc. Students shall be expected to complete make up work assigned. Upon completion of make up work, the student shall be deemed to be in attendance during that class and shall not, in any way, be penalized for having participated in the school sponsored activity.

Whenever it becomes evident to a teacher that a student is in danger of failing a course, the teacher shall arrange a conference with the student's parent/guardian or send the parent/guardian a written report (Education Code 49067).

No grade of a student participating in a physical education class may be adversely affected due to the fact that the student, because of circumstances beyond his/her control, does not wear standardized physical education apparel (Education Code 49066).

When reporting student grades to parents/guardians, teachers may add narrative descriptions, observational notes and/or samples of classroom work in order to better describe student progress in specific skills and subcategories of achievement.

K. Repeating Classes

With approval of the principal or designee, a student may repeat a course one time in order to raise his/her grade point average. Both grades shall be entered on the student's transcript and the student will receive duplicate credit. The two grades shall be averaged in determining the student's overall grade point average. Courses which are required for graduation will receive elective credit if repeated.