

Sudlow Intermediate School

Dear 6th grade Families,

This year we are piloting our Standards Based Grading in our Language Arts classes. While we are striving to send a clear message to students and families where students are successful in their learning, we know the report card can raise many questions. Recently a parent posed a few questions that our District Curriculum Director, Corri Guy, has responded to her concerns. By sharing this information, you might have some of your questions answered.

- Is the district planning to change the 1, 2, 3, 4 score into a letter grade at 6th grade? at 8th grade? Has that been happening throughout the year for some students?

Yes, the intention has always been to have a letter grade show on the final report card. Recently, due to new updates in the student management system (Infinite Campus) a letter grade can be posted based on student proficiency of the standard. Unfortunately, this was unavailable for Q1, and Q2.

- Is there a set percentage of the classroom grade when using standards based grading with the rubrics that is based on formative or summative assessments?

There is not a set percentage for the full pilot standards based grading courses since they are purely grading and reporting out on each individual standard using a standards-based gradebook setup. However, other teacher teams who are using the standards based rubrics without the Infinite Campus standards based gradebook setup are reporting using percentages for formative and summative assessments. The recommendation for this interim set-up is 15% formative and 85% summative.

- How does the score of 1, 2, 3, 4 or a letter translate/impact a student's GPA calculation? especially when combined with other classes that are not graded based on standards at this time?

Since the 1, 2, 3, and 4 do get translated into a letter grade, the student's GPA would be calculated using those letter grades. The letter grade is a year-long score so the letter grade they receive at the end of the year would be their letter grade for every quarter of the school year. Below is the grading scale teachers are using to determine the letter grade of students:

Letter Grade	Calculated Course Score
A	3.51-4.00
A-	3.00-3.50
B+	2.84-2.99
B	2.67-2.83
B-	2.50-2.66
C+	2.34-2.49

C	2.17-2.33
C-	2.00-2.16
D+	1.84-1.99
D	1.67-1.83
D-	1.50-1.66
F	0.00-1.49

- If a student is in an honors class, is the 1, 2, 3, 4 weighted as more when translated to a letter grade?

No, students in an honors course must meet proficiency on the standards for that course. However, in an Honors course a teacher would spend more time on the exceeds portion of the proficiency rubric giving students more opportunities to demonstrate deeper application of the standard's content resulting in an overall standard score of 4 or exceeds. Also worth noting is that because the class is an honors class, it would be likely the teacher would spend less time working on prerequisite skills with students at a whole-class level.

- If it is true that students have to the end of the year to "meet" the standard, is it truly possible for students to redo work up to the end of the school year to change their grade?

Yes, students may redo work to improve their grade. Teachers may require students to show evidence of new learning which could include: Tiger Time period, meeting with teacher 1-1, showing notes from study session etc. to show they are ready for reassessment.

- Is there a district procedure for the Power of I?

Currently the Power of I is under review to be modified as we transition into SBAR grading as well as buildings offering daily intervention opportunities for students. Past practice for the Power of I has been all make-up work must be done two weeks after the end of the quarter.

While this may not answer all of your questions or concerns, we hope you find the information useful. Please contact your child's Language Arts teacher if you have any further questions. Thank you for your continued support of Sudlow!

Sincerely,

Tonya R. Wilkins

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Principal

Sudlow Intermediate School

wilkinst@davenportschools.org

563.445.5150