

Updated Elementary Grading Practices

July 31, 2017

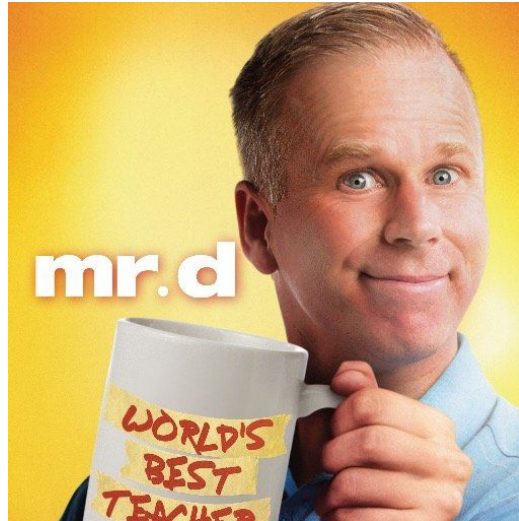
The Rationale...

Why grading practices? Why now?

- Consistency across the district.
- How do we handle modifications/accomodations with ELL and Special Needs students?
- Did I mention consistency across the district?

What we want to avoid...

Grading Don'ts



The Committee...

All elementary schools...

- Primary Teacher (Grades K-3)
- Intermediate Teacher (Grades 4-6)
- Special Area Teacher (P.E., Music, Art)
- Special Education Teacher
- English Language Learner Teacher
- CTA Representation
- District Level Admin to help lead discussions

The Process...

Beginning in December 2016...

- Why do we issue grades?
- What do grades tell us?
- What do grades tell students?
- How do grades improve student achievement?
- What is currently standardized in Wayne?

Refer to copy of article...

The Current Grading Scale...

Grade Level Standards	Letter Grade	Percentage
Exemplary	A+	100%
	A	93-99%
	A-	90-92%
Proficient	B+	87-89%
	B	83-86%
	B-	80-82%
Progressing	C+	77-79%
	C	73-76%
	C-	70-72%
Not Yet Meeting Standard	F	Below 70

What to do with that pesky ZERO...

- Students who complete an assignment cannot earn lower than a 60% for their work
- When a student chooses not to complete an assignment, the teacher will assign the student a 50% to be averaged in with the rest of the coursework
- Students are expected to complete missing work
- Late work can be accepted for full credit until the end of the unit coursework

Minimum # of grades in each subject...

- Students will earn a minimum of 5 grades for each subject quarterly
- Grades will be updated in the online gradebook at least bi-weekly
- Quarterly grades should be based on the assignments of that 9-week period
- Students' grades will restart each quarter

English Language Learners...

- Language Levels 1.0-4.9 receive accommodations and modifications per their ILP. These help them to access the curriculum
- Some Anchor Units have a differentiation plan called a [MPI](#) (Model Performance Indicator) which helps guide teachers on how to teach and assess at each language level
- [WIDA](#) has [Can Do Descriptors](#) that explicitly shows teachers what each student CAN DO based on their language level and/or domain

Grading ELL Students...

- Students can earn A's based on what they can do at their language proficiency level
- The language barrier should not be the reason a student earns an F
- If a student continues to receive F's on assignments with accommodations and modifications, teachers will convene to determine next steps

Special Education Students...

All students with IEP's and 504's may receive accommodations and/or modifications per their IEP or 504 plan

- With an accommodation, the student is doing the same grade level assignment as the peers in his/her classroom but with a leveled playing field
- A student who has a modification in their IEP, gets the assignment changed to a lower grade-level or skill

Special Education Students...

Grades will be determined based on grade level or modified work

- Students' work will be modified and/or accommodated per their individual IEPs
- Report cards will indicate whether the students' grades are based on below, on, or above work
- If a student continues to receive F's on assignments with accommodations and modifications, teachers will convene to determine next steps

Special Area Guidelines...

- A minimum of 8 grades per semester, 1st through 6th grade, will be entered in the gradebook program for Art, Music and Physical Education classes
- Special Area grades reflect demonstration of skills taught and participation in class

Special Area Guidelines...

- Homework may be assigned when practice is needed outside of the classroom or work is not completed during class
- Activity and grading modifications may be provided for:
 - English Language Learners
 - Special Education students
 - Students with a 504 plan

Citizenship...

Grades are determined on the student's' demonstration of:

- Consistently abide by school-wide expectations
- Come to school prepared with necessary materials
- Kind actions towards others
- Respect towards school personnel and peers
- Act responsibly
- Accountable for his/her learning
- Citizenship grade **does** count for
Honor Roll

Citizenship...

Tracked with classroom citizenship plan,
alongside Schoolwide Positive Behavior Plan

- Students with IEP's and 504 plans are held to the same standard; however, their behavioral accommodations and/or modifications and behavior plans must be followed and held into account

Extra Credit...

Providing a Purpose for the Extra Credit

- Students may redo an assignment for points rather than given extra credit
- Bonus points on a quiz, test, or presentation is relevant for all students
- Bonus points or extra assignments at the end of a grading period to improve an overall course grade is not appropriate
- Extra credit should not be presented to students for bringing in extra supplies

Report Card...

Above, On, Below Grade Level...

Level Performance

- Provided on the report card for accountability of performance over grade level standards
- A student receiving accommodations or modifications may receive letter grades at their present levels, but the level performance will reflect whether they are below, on, or above grade level

Homework...

- Homework is for practice only, and should be a review of skills previously taught
- No more than 5 minutes per grade level per night for our general education students
(5th grade: $5 \times 5 = 25$ mins)
- Horizons and THRIVE follow their set guidelines
- Should not require additional resources to complete

Homework...

- Means to communicate with parents what is being taught in classrooms
- Homework is not required to be graded, but should be checked for completion and progress
- If graded, should not exceed 10% of that subject area grade/citizenship grade

The New Elementary Grading Scale:

Exemplary	100%	A+
	93-99%	A
	90-92%	A-
Proficient	87-89%	B+
	83-86%	B
	80-82%	B-
Progressing	77-79%	C+
	73-76%	C
	70-72%	C-
	65-69%	D
Not Meeting Standards	50-64%	F

Timeline of Communication...

- Shared with Elementary Principals 7/18/17
- Representatives from committee will share in more detail with buildings before school begins or within first few weeks.
- Web page--Grading Scale listed
- Brochure will be created and shared with parents at Parent/Teacher Conferences
- All in place by the end of the first semester 2017-18.

Questions...

