

SUBJECT: HIGH SCHOOL COURSE GRADING

Grading Statement:

The Board of Education of the Wallkill Central School District recognizes that grading serves five essential purposes:

1. Feedback for students that informs them of their progress
2. Evidence of student progress that helps teachers to assess their instruction
3. A method of reporting student achievement to parents
4. Information for student placement purposes
5. Data for curriculum development

Course grades must be a full assessment of the full range of students' achievement in a course. Class participation, graded written and oral assignments, tests, quizzes, homework, as well as special project work for seniors approved by the principal and final examinations should all be part of the final grade. However, in no case will any of the aforementioned items be counted twice, nor grouped in such a way that they have a double impact on a student's final grade. Final examination means a class final exam if there is no applicable Regents or Regents Competency Test (RCT).

Grade point average (GPA) should also reflect this grading statement by not allowing a final exam grade to be equally rated with a course grade.

Procedures:

- a. The weight of homework toward any quarter grade should not exceed twenty percent (20%) of the quarter average.
- b. All final exams will be weighted as one-fifth^{tenth} of final grade for half-year and full-year courses.
- c. All final exams taken for a second (or third) time will be averaged with the first (and second) final exam and then considered part of the one-fifth^{tenth} grading for the course.
- d. If the course is taken again and a final exam is taken, then the new course grade will be entered as a separate course and both course grades are counted in the GPA. (Students must complete a summer school course or at least one semester. If not, then the final exam is computed as in number b.)
- e. If a student challenges a Regents course (takes Regents exam but does not sit for the course) and receives an 85 or above, he/she passes the course and earns credit, but the grade is not part of the GPA. (Only completing the course counts in GPA.)
- f. For courses requiring the passing of a Regents or RCT Exam as a final exam, the student will receive a unit of credit only when the student receives both a passing course grade, and a passing grade for the Regents or RCT Exam.

Students**SUBJECT: HIGH SCHOOL COURSE GRADING [continued]**

- g. For full year courses no grade lower than 50 will be given during the first and second quarter. If the student's actual average is less than 50, a comment on the report card will be used to indicate such.
- h. A student's final grade is subject to principal review.

Makeup Policy:

- a. When a student misses a class or school day, he/she is expected within five (5) school days of his/her return, to provide a written explanation from his/her parent or guardian. Moreover, the student must consult with his/her teachers regarding missed work. If the absence is excused, the student may make up any work missed by arranging an assignment with the teacher.
- b. Make-up assignments must be completed by the date specified by the student's teacher for the particular class. Upon satisfactory and timely completion of the make-up grade.
- c. Reasonable make-up opportunities will be given to students with excused absences due to:
 - 1) personal illness;
 - 2) illness or death in the family;
 - 3) disability;
 - 4) impassable roads or weather;
 - 5) religious observance;
 - 6) quarantine;
 - 7) required court appearances;
 - 8) attendance at health clinics;
 - 9) approved college visits;
 - 10) approved cooperative work programs;
 - 11) military obligations; or
 - 12) such other reasons as may be approved by the Commissioner of Education and/or the building principal.
- d. Students who are unable to attend class period/ day due to their participation in a school sponsored activity (e.g., field trip, music lessons, etc.) and who arrange with their teachers to make-up missed work, shall be given credit for class participation on the class day/period missed.

SUBJECT: GRADES 6-8 COURSE GRADING

The Board of Education of the Wallkill Central School District recognizes that grading serves five essential purposes:

1. Feedback for students that informs them of their progress
2. Evidence of student progress that helps teachers to assess their instruction
3. A method of reporting student achievement to parents
4. Information for student placement purposes
5. Data for curriculum development

Course grades must be an assessment of the full range of students' achievement in a course. Class participation as defined by the class syllabi, graded written and oral assignments, tests, quizzes, homework, and final examinations should all be part of the final grade. However, in no case will any of the aforementioned items be counted twice, nor grouped in such a way that they have a double impact on a student's final grade. Final examination means a class final exam if ~~and/or~~ **there is no** applicable Regents or Regents Competency Test (RCT).

Procedures:

- a. No grade lower than fifty-five (55) will be given in the first and second marking period. If the student's actual average is less than fifty-five (55), a comment on the report card will be used to indicate such.
- b. The weight of homework toward any quarter grade should not exceed twenty percent (20%) of the quarter average.
- c. All final exams will be weighted as one-fifth **tenth** of final grade for half-year and full-year courses.

Makeup Policy:

- a. When a student misses a class or school day, he/she is expected within five (5) school days of his/her return, to provide a written explanation from his/her parent or guardian. Moreover, the student must consult with his/her teachers regarding missed work. If the absence is excused, the student may make up any work missed by arranging an assignment with the teacher.
- b. Make-up assignments must be completed by the date specified by the student's teacher for the particular class. Upon satisfactory and timely completion of the make-up grade.

SUBJECT: GRADES 6-8 COURSE GRADING [continued]

- c. Reasonable make-up opportunities will be given to students with excused absences due to:
 - 1. personal illness;
 - 2. illness or death in the family;
 - 3. disability;
 - 4. impassable roads or weather;
 - 5. religious observance;
 - 6. quarantine;
 - 7. required court appearances;
 - 8. attendance at health clinics;
 - 9. approved college visits;
 - 10. approved cooperative work programs;
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 - 12. such other reasons as may be approved by the Commissioner of Education and/or the building principal.
- d. Students who are unable to attend class period/ day due to their participation in school sponsored activity (e.g., field trip, music lessons, etc.) and who arrange with their teachers to make-up missed work, shall be given credit for class participation on the class day/period missed.