

Grading Policies and Philosophies

Purpose of grading: The purpose of a grade is to communicate to students, teacher and parents an accurate report of what students know and can do in relation to an academic standard.

Policy for non-academic tasks: Non-academic work such as bringing in materials, bathroom pass usage, student attendance, school dress up days, attending extra-curricular events, signed parent permission sheets, covering textbooks, paying lab fees and other items not demonstrating acquisition of course knowledge should not be included in an academic grades. These items may be included in a student's attitude/effort grade.

Policy for extra-credit: Extra credit has a tendency to distort grades away from being simple measures of performance and content or concept mastery. Students are encouraged to seize opportunities provided in the classroom to expand their learning within the existing curriculum. Students will not be provided opportunities to earn extra credit. Students may have the opportunity to improve their academic achievement through reassessment options allowed for some of their assignments or assessments. Each course syllabus provides information on what reassessment is allowed.

Science Department Grading Policies

Policy for late work:

- Late work will be accepted up until the date of the assessment for the current chapter or unit.
- No late penalty will be given within this timeframe.
- If the work is not turned in by the assessment for the current chapter or unit, the grade will remain a zero.

Policy for Test Retakes

A student may ask for a re-take of a test under the following conditions:

- The student score on the original assessment is lower than an 85%.
- The student must complete a retake reflection sheet.
- The student must have a parent/guardian sign the retake reflection sheet. If there is no parent/guardian signature, the student forfeits the opportunity for the retake.
- The student must NOT have any missing work for the chapter/unit that was tested.
- The test must be retaken within one week of the test as determined by the science teacher.
- The student will receive the score that they earn on the re-take up to an 85%.

Homework and/or quiz corrections may be given at the discretion of the science teacher.

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