

STUDENTS

Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement

The Inyo County 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. (cf. 5020 - Parent Rights and Responsibilities)

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)
(cf. 5125.3 - Challenging Student Records)

Teachers shall evaluate a student's work in relation to standards which apply to all students at his/her grade level. The Superintendent or designee shall establish and regularly evaluate a uniform grading system, and the director 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.
(cf. 5124 - Communication with Parents/Guardians)
(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)

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 CODE

- 48070 Promotion and retention
- 48205 Excused absences
- 48431.6 Required systematic review
- 49066 Grades; finalization; physical education class
- 49067 Mandated regulations regarding pupil's achievement
- 51220.3 Extra grade weighting for college admission courses

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

- 1232g Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)
- 6101-6251 School-to-Work Opportunities Act of 1994

STUDENTS

Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement

COURT DECISIONS

Owasso Independent School District v. Falvo, (2002) 122 S.Ct. 934
Las Virgenes Educators Association v. Las Virgenes Unified School District (2nd Appellate District 2001) 86 Cal.App.4th 1
Swany v. San Ramon Valley Unified School Dist. (N.D.Cal. 1989) 720 F.Supp. 764
Johnson v. Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Board of Education (App. 2 Dist. 1986) 224 Cal. Rptr. 885, 179 C.A. 3d 593

Management Resources:

CDE PUBLICATIONS

It's Elementary!, Elementary Grades Task Force Report, 1992

BOARD POLICY:

First Reading: September 17, 2002
Second Reading/Adoption: October 15, 2002

STUDENTS

Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement

Grades for Achievement

Grades for achievement shall be reported for each marking period as follows:

A	Outstanding Achievement	4.0 grade points
B	Above Average Achievement	3.0 grade points
C	Average Achievement	2.0 grade points
D	Below Average Achievement	1.0 grade points
F	Little or No Achievement	0 grade points
I	Incomplete	0 grade points

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)
(cf. 5123 - Promotion/Acceleration/Retention)
(cf. 5124 - Communication with Parents/Guardians)

An Incomplete is given only when a student's work is not finished because of illness or other excused absence. If not made up within six weeks, the Incomplete shall become an F.

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)

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. Students who receive a Fail grade shall not receive credit for taking the course.

STUDENTS

Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement

Peer Grading

At their discretion, teachers may use peer grading of student tests, papers and assignments as appropriate to reinforce lessons.
(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION:

First Reading: September 17, 2002

Second Reading/Adoption: October 15, 2002