

GRADES/EVALUATION OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

The Board of Trustees 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. 6146.4 - Differential Graduation and Competency Standards for Individuals with Exceptional Needs)

Teachers shall evaluate a student's work in relation to standards which apply to all students at his/her grade level, not in relation to the work of other students in one particular class. The Superintendent or designee shall establish and regularly evaluate a uniform grading system, and principals 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.

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 channels such as classroom participation, homework, tests and portfolios. The Board recognizes that portfolios may be especially useful in assessing how skills, knowledge and thought processes have been combined from a number of different subject areas.

(cf. 6030 - Integrated Academic and Vocational Instruction)

When reporting student grades to parents/guardians, teachers may add narrative descriptions, observational notes and/or samples of classroom work in order to better describe student progress in specific skills and subcategories of achievement.

Behavior, effort and attendance shall be reported in separate evaluations, not in the student's academic grade.

(cf. 5113 - Absences and Excuses)

(cf. 5123 - Promotion/Acceleration/Retention)

(cf. 5124 - Communication with Parents/Guardians)

(cf. 5125.3 - Challenging Student Records)

(cf. 6154 - Homework/Make-up Work)

Legal Reference: (see next page)

GRADES/EVALUATION OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

48070 *Promotion and retention*

48431.6 *Required systematic review*

49066 *Grades; finalization; physical education class*

49067 *Mandated regulations regarding pupil's achievement*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

6101-6251 *School-to-Work Opportunities Act of 1994*

Johnson v. Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Board of Education

(App. 2 Dist. 1986) 224 Cal. Rptr. 885, 179 Cal. App. 3d 593

Management Resources:

CDE PUBLICATIONS

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

Policy

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FORTUNA UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Fortuna, California