

BOARD AGENDA ITEM
August 12, 2014

SUBJECT:

Changes to Policy *IKA Grading/Assessment Systems – Final Reading*

BACKGROUND:

The District's present policy no longer conforms to present rulings by the State Department of Education. Accordingly, the changes to our present policy are being provided to you. This policy deals generally with all of the grading and assessment systems utilized by the Department of Instruction.

ADMINISTRATIVE CONSIDERATION:

The State Department of Education recently ruled that our transitional courses will no longer be accepted for the provision of Carnegie credits. This requires a slight adjustment (accomplished by deletions) in the wording of the policy at the bottom of the first page where it deals with seventh and eighth grade students.

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt the Amended Policy IKA on Final Reading.

ATTACHMENT:

Policy IKA (changes are only to the first page).

PREPARED BY:

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GRADING/ASSESSMENT SYSTEMS

Code **IKA** Issued **8/14**

Purpose: To establish a basic structure for assessment of student instruction.

Grading system

Student performance should be evaluated based on state grade-level standards, academic plans, IEPs, textbook and teacher-made tests, and other available methods. Student conduct will be excluded from consideration in determining a student's grade.

Provisions in this policy will supersede all other rules pertaining to class rank, course weightings, course levels and sections.

Grading scales

Kindergarten

In kindergarten a checklist reflecting academic achievement standards will be used each nine weeks.

Grades one through 12

In grades one through 12, numerical grades as specified will be used to report student progress for each reporting period. Report cards will reflect the academic achievement standards.

Numerical grades will be used on report cards, transcripts and permanent records in reading and mathematics for grade one. Numerical grades will be used in all subject areas for grades two through 12 except as noted in the following paragraphs.

- Meeting standards (MS), making progress towards standards (MPS) and not making progress towards standards (NMP) will be used in art, physical education and music in grades one through five. MS, MPS and NMP will be used in ELA, social studies and science in grade one and handwriting in grades one and two. Health will be included with science in grades one through five.
- In grades one through five, the ELA grade will be a composite of spelling, English and composition, with reading being a separate grade. In grades six, seven and eight, the ELA grade will be a composite of English, reading and composition.
- A student promoted to the seventh or eighth grade may take units of ninth grade or higher work for high school credit. Eligible eighth grade students will be offered the opportunity to enroll in Honors Algebra I and Honors English I. Additional offerings may be available through a combination of exploratory and foreign language courses. Physical education and band will be excluded as high school credit course offerings at the middle level.