

GRADES/EVALUATION OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

The Board of Trustees believes that grades serve a valuable instructional purpose by helping students and parents/guardians understand performance expectations and identifying 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)
(cf. [5125.2](#) - Withholding Grades, Diploma or Transcripts)

The Superintendent or designee shall establish a uniform grading system that shall be applied to all students in that course and grade level. Teachers shall inform students and parents/guardians how academic performance will be evaluated in the classroom.

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)

A teacher shall base a student's grades solely on the quality of the student's academic work and his/her mastery of course content based on District standards. Students shall have the opportunity to demonstrate this mastery through a variety of methods, including, but not limited to, tests, projects, portfolios, and/or class discussion as appropriate such as classroom participation, homework, tests, and portfolios. Other elements that are not a direct measure of knowledge and understanding of course content, such as attendance, effort, student conduct, and work habits, shall not be factored into the academic grade but may be reported separately.

(cf. [6011](#) - Academic Standards)
(cf. [6162.5](#) - Student Assessment)

Whenever a student misses an assignment or assessment due to either an excused or unexcused absence, he/she shall be given full credit for subsequent satisfactory completion of the assignment or assessment.

(cf. 6154 - Homework/Makeup Work)
(cf. 5113 - Absences and Excuses)
(cf. 5113.1 - Chronic Absence and Truancy)
(cf. 5125 - Student Records)
(cf. 6159 - Individualized Education Program)
(cf. 6164.6 - Identification and Education Under Section 504)

A 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](#))

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(cf. [5125.3](#) - Challenging Student Records)

The Superintendent or designee shall determine the methodology to be used in calculating students' grade point average (GPA), including the courses to be included within the GPA and whether extra grade weighting shall be applied to Advanced Placement, honors, and/or concurrent postsecondary courses.

(cf. 6141.4 - International Baccalaureate Program)

(cf. 6141.5 - Advanced Placement)

(cf. 6172 - Gifted and Talented Student Program)

(cf. 6172.1 - Concurrent Enrollment in College Classes)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

[48070](#) Promotion and retention

[48205](#) Excused absences

[48800-48802](#) Enrollment of gifted students in community college

[48904-48904.3](#) Withholding grades, diplomas, or transcripts

[49066](#) Grades; finalization; physical education class

[49067](#) Mandated regulations regarding student's achievement

[49069.5](#) Students in foster care, grades and credits

[51242](#) Exemption from physical education based on participation in interscholastic athletics

69432.9 Cal Grant program; notification of grade point average

[76000-76002](#) Enrollment in community college

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

[10060](#) Criteria for reporting physical education achievement, high schools

[30008](#) Definition of high school grade point average for student aid eligibility

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

[1232g](#) Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34

[99.1-99.67](#) Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

COURT DECISIONS

Owasso Independent School District v. Falvo, (2002) 534 U.S. 426

Las Virgenes Educators Association v. Las Virgenes Unified School District, (2001) 86 Cal.App.4th 1

Swany v. San Ramon Valley Unified School District, (1989) 720 F.Supp. 764

Johnson v. Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Board of Education, (1986) 179 Cal.App.3d 593

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Research-Supported Strategies to Improve the Accuracy and Fairness of Grades, Governance

Salinas Union High School District

Students

Policy #5121

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Brief, July 2016

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS
CORRESPONDENCE

Report Cards and Transcripts for Students with Disabilities, October 17, 2008

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

California Student Aid Commission: <http://www.csac.ca.gov>

U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights:
<http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr>

Adopted: 11/24/1981

Adopted: 3/9/2010