



# Presentation on Grading Practice Changes for Back-to-School Nights 2010



# Grading Practice Changes

## District Goal for Policy IK

To ensure that the reporting of student achievement is accurate, valid and reliable.



## **Current Reality**

Because teachers tend to average their grades, traditional grading scales skew grades for students who are missing assignments or score below 50%.

Secondary grades include a multitude of behavioral factors that are averaged in with the achievement grade.

- Points off for missing work
- Points off for late work
- Extra credit
- Etc...



## Some Examples of Unbalanced vs. Balanced Grading Scales

Traditional 100 Point grading scale		An example of a balanced 5 point Scale
100	A+	5
90	A	4
80	B	3
70	C	2
60	D	1
50	F	0
40		
30		
20		
10		
0		



## Some examples of balanced grading scales ...

	50 point	100 point	4 point	5 point	6 point	15 point
<b>A</b>	90 – 100	80 – 100	3.2 – 4.0	4 – 5	5 – 6	A+ = 14
						A = 13
						A- = 12
<b>B</b>	80 – 90	60 – 80	2.4 – 3.2	3 – 4	4 – 5	B+ = 11
						B = 10
						B- = 9
<b>C</b>	70 – 80	40 – 60	1.6 – 2.4	2 – 3	3 – 4	C+ = 8
						C = 7
						C- = 6
<b>D</b>	60 – 70	20 – 40	0.8 – 1.6	1 – 2	2 – 3	D+ = 5
						D = 4
						D- = 3
<b>F</b>	50 – 60	0 – 20	0.0 – 0.8	0 – 1	1 – 2	F+ = 2
						F = 1
						F- = 0



## An exercise in skewing the mean

	100 point scale	5 point Scale	50 point
Assignment #1	95		
2	0		
3	70		
4	0		
5	85		
6	70		
7	0		
8	70		
9	70		
10	0		
Total	460		
Mean/Average	46		
Letter Grade	F		



## **Balanced Grading Scales in Practice**

- A teacher will continue to assess student work based on the standards. The standards have not changed, so an A is still an A, and a F is still a F.
- What has changed is simply how that grade is represented in the grade book based on the balanced grading scale the teacher is using.
- An example: A student scores a 30% on an assignment.
  - On a traditional grading scale that is halfway up the F scale.
  - The teacher records that grade as halfway up the F scale of their balanced grading scale.
  - However, it is still an F.



## Some Examples of Balanced vs. Unbalanced Grading Scales

Traditional 100 Point grading scale		An example of a balanced 100 point scale
100	A+	100
90	A	80
80	B	60
70	C	40
60	D	20
50	F	0
40		
30		
20		
10		
0		

**30% = F**

**10 = F**



# Questions?

Please send questions to:

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