

**EVALUATION OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT**

The Board of Trustees believes that measures of progress serve a valuable instructional purpose by helping students and parents/guardians understand performance expectations and identify a student's areas of strength and those areas needing improvement. Parents/guardians and students have the right to receive progress measures that represent an accurate evaluation of the student's achievement.

The Superintendent or designee shall establish a progress reporting system based on standards that apply to all students in that course and grade level. Teachers shall inform students and parents/guardians how student achievement will be evaluated in the classroom.

A teacher shall base a student's progress marks on the quality of the student's academic work and his/her mastery of course content and district standards. Students shall have the opportunity to demonstrate this mastery through a variety of methods, including, but not limited to, tests, projects, and/or class discussion as appropriate. 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 progress mark but may be reported separately.

When reporting student performance 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.

A report card for a student with a disability may contain information about his/her disability, including whether that student received special education or related services, provided that the report card informs parents/guardians about their child's progress or level of achievement in specific classes, course content, or curriculum.

The marks assigned by the teacher shall not be changed by the Board or the Superintendent except as provided by law, Board policy, or administrative regulation. (Education Code 49066)

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The Superintendent or designee shall inform teachers of the district's policy and expectations that progress marks shall be based on factors that directly measure students' knowledge and skills in the content area and shall not include nonacademic factors.

Report cards displaying students' progress marks in each subject or course shall be distributed to parents/guardians periodically, as designated by Superintendent or designee. Parents/guardians shall be offered an opportunity to meet with their child's teacher(s) to discuss progress and strategies to improve their child's performance.

Whenever it becomes evident to a teacher that a student is in danger of failing a course or not meeting course standards, the teacher shall arrange a conference with the student's parent/guardian or send the parent/guardian a written report. (Education Code 49067)

**Progress Marks for Physical Education**

No progress mark 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)

**Peer Assessment**

At their discretion, teachers may use peer assessment of student tests, papers, and assignments as appropriate to reinforce lessons.

**Effect of Absences**

Teachers who may choose to withhold class credit because of excessive unexcused absences shall so inform students and parents/guardians of such a possibility at the beginning of the school year or semester. When a student reaches the number of unexcused absences defined as excessive in Board policy, the student and parent/guardian shall again be notified of the district's policy regarding excessive absences.

The student and parent/guardian shall have a reasonable opportunity to explain the absences. (Education Code 49067)

If a student receives a failing mark because of excessive absences, the student's record shall specify that the mark was assigned because of excessive absences. (Education Code 49067)

Marks for a student in foster care shall not be lowered if the student is absent for any reason specified in Education Code 49069.5.