

WHY STANDARDS-BASED GRADING?

Standards-based grading has truly transformed my teaching (for the better!) in many ways. Let me briefly explain:

1. Instead of a 18/20 on an assignment, each assignment is given one grade per standard. So, if there are 5 standards being measured on an assignment, you will see 5 grades entered on PowerSchool. This way, if you asked me what they could improve or where they needed to focus, it's quite easy to pinpoint, rather than having to have their assignment to see exactly what 2 points they missed.
2. I want every student to be at least at the 2.0 mark, which indicates a basic understanding of the concept. Therefore, if they are not there because they earned anywhere from a 0 to a 1.5, I can instantly see what concept to focus on and provide individualized instruction as well as the opportunity for the student to take another try at it.
3. This helps my students focus in on exactly what they need to rework instead of thinking that they need to redo the entire assignment. They may be proficient in all of the other areas, and it wouldn't necessarily be beneficial to their time to redo *all* of it when the time could be used to really grapple with where they are struggling.
4. If I see the entire class is struggling with a particular concept, I can also pinpoint what precisely to reteach or review rather than having to go over *all* of the content again. It may just be one particular standard/concept that they're struggling with, and I can take it from there.
5. 3.5 and 4.0 grades mean they have gone above and beyond what I taught them in class. This is an accessible way for you to see where they excel.

GRADING SCALE FOR STUDENTS

- 4.0 You meet the more complex details of the standard and were able to go above and beyond.
- 3.5 In addition to 3.0 performance, partial success at 4.0
- 3.0 You meet all required expectations of the standard and demonstrate proficiency and mastery of the standard.
- 2.5 In addition to 2.0 performance, partial success at 3.0
- 2.0 You meet the simpler details regarding the standard.
- 1.5 In addition to 1.0 performance, partial success at 2.0
- 1.0 With help, you meet the simpler details of the standard.
- 0 Even with help, no success on the standard

GRADING SCALE FORMATTED TO POWERSCHOOL

As PowerSchool does not recognize a 4 or a 2.5, I convert the grade to a percentage scale as follows:

4.0:	100.1
3.5:	98
3.0:	96
2.5:	88
2.0:	78
1.5:	72
1.0:	62
0:	0

One assignment may assess multiple standards. Therefore, you may see more than one grade per assignment.