

Valley Oaks Charter School High School Grading Policy

The Governing Board believes that grades serve a valuable instructional purpose by helping students and parents/guardians identify 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.

The teacher of each course shall determine the student's grade. The Board or Valley Oaks Charter School Administration shall not change the grade assigned by the teacher, unless the teacher who determined such grade is given an opportunity to state the reasons for which such grade was given.

Teachers shall evaluate a student's work in relation to standards, which apply to all students at his/her grade level. The principal shall ensure that student grades conform to this system. Teachers shall inform students and parents/guardians how student achievement will be evaluated.

Grades shall be based on impartial, consistent review of the quality of the student's work and his/her mastery of course content and objectives. Students shall have the opportunity to demonstrate this mastery through a variety of methods such as program participation, homework, tests, and portfolios.

If a student misses activities and/or meetings without an excuse and does not subsequently turn in homework, take a test or fulfill another course requirement, which he/she missed, the teacher may lower the student's grade for nonperformance.

Grades for achievement

Grades for achievement shall be reported for each marking period as follows:

A	4.0 grade points
A-	3.7 grade points
B+	3.3 grade points
B	3.0 grade points
B-	2.7 grade points
C+	2.3 grade points
C	2.0 grade points
C-	1.7 grade points
D+	1.3 grade points
D	1.0 grade points
D-	0.7 grade points
F	0 grade points
I	0 grade points

Whenever it becomes evident to a teacher that a student is in danger of failing a course, the teacher shall arrange a conference with the student's parent/guardian or send the parent/guardian a written report. Progress reports will be sent home on a monthly basis to maintain a high level of communication and progress towards completion of coursework.

Incompletes

An incomplete is given only when a student's work is not finished because of illness or other excused absence. If not made up within four weeks, the incomplete shall become an F. To request an incomplete, the student must contact the resource teacher and complete the appropriate forms, for administrative approval. An extension of the incomplete status, may be granted by the principal or designee.

Pass/Fail Grading

The Principal or designee may identify courses or programs, for which students may, with parent/guardian permission, elect to earn a Pass or Fail grade instead of an A-F grade. Students who receive a Pass grade shall acquire the appropriate semester units of credit for the course. The grade shall not be counted in determining class rank, honors list, or G.P.A.

Grade Weighting for Advanced Placement/Honors Courses

Students may earn extra grade points for Advanced Placement and Honors courses. The following is a list of those advancements:

- A 5 points in a Honors/Advanced Placement Course
- B 4 points in a Honors/Advanced Placement Course

Grades in Sequence Courses

Although a grade of D in a particular course is passing and a student will earn credit for the course, the student will not be able to move to the next level in the sequence of courses. For example, if a student earns a D in an Algebra I course, then the student may not move on to Geometry or Algebra II. The student must receive a C or better, in order to move on to the next course in sequence.

Repeating Courses

With the approval of the principal or designee, a student may repeat a course in order to raise his/her grade. Both grades received shall be entered on the student's transcript, but the student shall receive credit only once for taking the course. Note: The highest grade received shall be used in determining the student's overall grade point average.

Adding/Dropping Courses

A student who drops a course during the first three weeks of the semester may do so without any entry on his/her transcript. The student and parent must contact their resource teacher and discuss the decision to add or drop classes. A change of request form must be filled out, in order to ensure the appropriate changes have been made to the student's schedule.

A student who does not drop course(s) within the first three weeks of the semester will remain in the course and shall receive the final grade, at the end of the semester. The final grade will appear on the student's transcript.