

# Stuart Middle School

## Grading Policy

### ***Grading Overview & Philosophy***

Stuart Middle School operates on the belief that grades should always be indicative of what students know and are able to do. Grades serve as a tool to communicate to students and parents how an individual is doing in relation to grade level goals. Practice grades should indicate how students will perform on classroom assessments, which will then indicate how students will perform on external assessments (DCA, State, etc...), which indicate student college and career readiness.

### ***Grade Book***

Teachers are expected to maintain current and accurate grades. It is recommended that students and parents monitor student progress on a weekly basis. Additionally, athletic eligibility is pulled every Tuesday at 2:40pm. Student grades need to be maintained to support communication with students and parents and to ensure eligibility of student athletes.

### ***Guiding Principles***

- All grading practices must be related to achievement of district curricular frames, state standards and /or program expectations.
- 60% of a student's grade is earned from summative assessments or tests.
- 40% of a student's grade is earned from classwork and homework.
- Effort, participation, attitude, and other behaviors will not be included in grades (except in the case of P.E. where state standards explicitly connect to participation); however, these skills are integral to the success of students and will be practiced regularly in class.
- The purpose of Morning Meeting/Advisory is to provide a space and a time for Raptors to develop a sense of community. For this reason, Morning Meeting/Advisory grades will be based on attendance and participation.
- The purpose of Connect 21 is to specifically teach and assess Social and Emotional Learning Competencies and RISE.

### ***Assessment 60%***

- All assessments given to students will be connected to the Colorado State Standards, School District 27J Curricular Frames or program expectations.
- Throughout the quarter, assessments will be given where students will be expected to demonstrate that they have learned the material, can perform necessary skills and apply concepts to solve problems. These assessments will be the majority of student's grades each quarter.
- Assessments don't always take the form of a paper/pencil test. They can also be, but not necessarily limited to: class presentations, labs, extended writing assignments, projects, and performances.
- If a student is enrolled in a performing arts class (Band, Drama, Choir), it is an expectation that students participate in the scheduled performances as they are a part of the grade.
- Students will be provided with ample notification of upcoming assessments and performances. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of assessment dates and stay organized. If a student is absent, it is his/her responsibility to schedule a time with his/her teacher to make up the assessment.
- Students who have a missing assessment will receive a missing (M) in Infinite Campus until that assessment has been completed. Missing assignments (M) calculate as an F (50%) in the grade. Assessments must be made-up prior to the end of the grading term.
- Assessment dates will be communicated using Infinite Campus.

### ***Practice 40%***

- Students will be given classwork and/or homework assignments to practice their skills individually on a regular basis to help develop their understanding of a concept. This may occur through exit tickets, daily assignments, etc. These types of assignments may occur at any time and should be expected by students.
- The purpose of these practice assignments is for students and teachers to gauge the current understanding and correct misconceptions prior to assessment.
- For longer term assignments and projects, teachers will communicate when assignments are due using Infinite Campus.

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### Additional Information

- NO extra credit assignments will be given or accepted.
- Student percentages will not be rounded up in order to reflect a higher grade.
- Teachers will only use point totals in Infinite Campus to reflect the grade a student earns on a specific assignment. The point totals will be issued as follows:

Points	Point Translation	Grade	Percent
5	<b>Advanced</b> (Above Grade Level - The student demonstrates understanding at a level beyond the grade-level standard.)	A	100%
4.5	<b>Approaching Advanced</b> (Slightly Above Grade Level - The student demonstrates an understanding that extends slightly past grade level.)	A	90%
4	<b>Proficient</b> (Grade Level - The student has met the grade level standard)	B	80%
3.5	<b>Partially Proficient</b> (Slightly Below Grade Level - There are parts of the standard the student has demonstrated, but they have not yet met the standard.)	C	70%
3	<b>Unsatisfactory</b> (Below Grade Level - Student has not yet met the standard, student is showing growth in some capacity but has not yet demonstrated understanding of the standard.)	D	60%
2.5	<b>Unsatisfactory</b> (Well Below Grade Level - Student is not yet approaching the standard, student has not demonstrated growth towards reaching the standard.)	F	50%
M	<b>Missing</b> (The student did not turn in or complete this assignment.)	F	50%

### **Turned in Work = T**

Work that is turned in but not yet graded can be marked with a 'T' in the grade book. This communicates to parents and students that the work was received and will be graded.

### **Missing Work/Late Work = M**

An assignment that has not been turned in is marked with an 'M' in the grade book. In alignment with our philosophy that practice work is given to prepare students for assessments, students may make up any missing assignments as long as they are turned in before the corresponding assessment. Assessment dates will be communicated through Infinite Campus.

### **Assignment comments/Redos**

If the teacher would like to note something specific about a student's performance on an assignment or that a student is redoing the assignment they may use the comment section in the grade book or Google Classroom. Please check the comments next to an assignment for further information. Alternate forms of assessment and student demonstration of skills and knowledge may also be suggested or utilized by the teacher.

### **Morning Meeting/Connect 21 Grades**

Morning Meeting/Advisory is Pass/Fail - Grades are based on participation (60% - assessment) and attendance (40% - practice).

Connect 21 Grades are based on the normal grading scale A-F.