

Policy #: 345.1
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF WEBSTER
Date Adopted: May 17, 2011
Date Revised: May 18, 2015
Policy Title: Grading Systems

I. Rationale:

With non-weighted systems, a student's GPA is not a true representation of his or her academic ability and willingness to participate in a demanding course of high school studies.

With the 4.0 system, a student is penalized for taking harder classes and rewarded for taking easier classes. Students that are of sufficient ability to take upper level classes but at the same time want to maintain a high GPA may end up taking the easier route. The **top ten** is supposed to represent the most scholastic and diligent students in the class, but many times they are not included because they chose to take harder classes and receive lower grades.

II. Solution:

A system based on a 5.0 scale would be much fairer as well as present a truer picture of who the most able students are. The 5.0 scale would be weighted. An A would be worth 5.0, a B 4.0, a C 3.0, a D 2.0, and a F 0. A limited number of accelerated classes would be designated as weighted. All remaining classes would be on a 4.0 scale. Although no one would receive as perfect a grade point average as is possible with non-weighted systems, students who take harder classes would receive the honor they deserve.

III. Classes to be Weighted:

Advanced Chemistry
Spanish 3
Pre-Engineering
Pre-Calculus
American Literature
All AP Courses and University accredited courses
Any other courses evaluated by the staff and approved by the School Board

IV. All students (and parent/ guardians of students) enrolled in Northern Lights ITV classes will be required to sign the Northern Lights ITV Course Agreement and abide by its provisions.

V. Pass/Fail

- a. Rationale: If a student has a GPA of greater than a 4.0, a grade of an A in a non-weighted class (example: band) could potentially lower their GPA. To encourage students in this category to take non-weighted coursework of their desire, they may have the option to take an elective course Pass/Fail under the following conditions:
 - i. The student's cumulative GPA is above a 4.0

WISCONSIN STATUTES

- [Section 115.787](#) [required components of IEPs for students with disabilities]
- [Section 120.12\(2\)](#) [board duty; advise regarding instruction and student progress]
- [Section 120.13\(1\)](#) [board power; make rules for organization and gradation of schools]

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- ii. Students make their request to take a course Pass/Fail to the high school principal and school counselor before the semester begins
- iii. Students may take a maximum of 1 credit per year of elective coursework Pass/Fail.
- iv. Grading will be done on the regular scale and only a final grade of an A will change to a Pass (P), anything lower than an A will remain a letter grade.

A grade of Pass (P) will show earned credit(s) but not factor into the students GPA.
Pass/Fail grades may be used for any student with disabilities as stipulated by their IEP.

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