

Rock Hill Schools Middle School Grading Procedures 2023-24

Rock Hill Schools grading guidelines are designed to ensure all students in the district are evaluated using a consistent, fair, and equitable grading system across classrooms and schools. Grading procedures in Rock Hill Schools should reflect the following beliefs:

- Grades should reflect student proficiency on grade level standards and competencies, as well as clear learning targets.
- Grades should be balanced and reflect quality over quantity.
- Feedback is critical to student learning and grades alone are not a sufficient form of feedback.

Middle School Grade Distribution

- The purpose of homework is to provide students independent practice on skills or previously taught content. When homework is assigned, teachers should consider students' instructional levels and ensure homework is purposeful. At the middle school level, homework is not graded. Teachers may reward students for homework completion, but not penalize them.
- Major and minor grade weightings below may not be further subdivided.

	Major Grades	Minor Grades
Weighting	60% of final quarter grade	40% of final quarter grade
Minimum/Maximum Number of Grades	Minimum 3 to maximum 5 per quarter	Minimum 9 to maximum 27 per quarter
Types of assignments and assessments	Tests Culminating projects Papers (research, lab reports) Performances Portfolios	Quizzes Classwork including, but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• journal entries• warm-ups• digital class activities• problematic tasks• demonstration of skills measured by rubrics (teamwork, participation, etc.)• independent reading

Re-teaching/Reassessment

This policy applies to major assessments or assignments only.

The goal of retaking tests or assessments in middle school is for students to obtain and demonstrate mastery of course content. Students will be provided an opportunity for

reassessments only after re-teaching. Re-teaching occurs when the teacher or student determines that the student is not meeting learning goals. Re-teaching can occur with a teacher's face-to-face instruction, computer-based instruction, or additional practice opportunities at home.

Reassessment opportunities are only available to students that score below an 80. If a student wishes to retake a major assignment, he/she will have five days from when the initial score is posted in Canvas to request the reassessment from his/her teacher. Students who are offered the opportunity to retake an assessment must complete it by a date communicated by the teacher. The following assessments/tasks indicate a final measure of learning and may not be reassessed:

- End of course or semester exam;
- An assessment that ends an instructional period such as cumulative assessment;
- Benchmark or midterm exam;
- Final research paper, report, or essay; or
- Culminating project or performance.

When reassessment is offered, students scoring below the standard will have one opportunity to retake for a maximum grade of 80. In middle schools, this rule applies to all courses, including those taken for high school credit.

Make-Up Work

No late penalty is assessed if the graded assignment is due to a lawful absence. It is the student's responsibility to contact their teachers about make-up work upon return to school and within three days of return at maximum. The number of days allowed to submit late work is equal to the number of days the student was absent plus one additional day. If the student has prior knowledge of the assignment, he/she is responsible for making up the assignment immediately upon return unless arrangements have been made with the teacher. Parents and students may also access Canvas from the school's home page. Canvas provides access to class work and assignments, as well as due dates via the calendar. Students may ask teachers questions through their inbox.

Minimum Quarter Grades

If a student earns an F in a class for a given quarter, that F will be reflected on the student's report card. However, Rock Hill Schools sets a minimum final grade each quarter at the middle school level to ensure failing grades for one or two quarters do not prevent a student from passing the class for the year if the student improves performance and/or works to do so.

- Quarter 1 = 50
- Quarter 2 = 40
- Quarter 3 = 50
- Quarter 4 = 40

Each student's actual grades should be reflected in Canvas and on progress reports. Teachers can give zeros during the quarter on major or minor assessments/assignments during the quarter.

Academic Honesty

All middle school students are expected to maintain academic honesty in their school work and learning. Grades – in part – are a reflection of academic honesty and learning. When a student becomes involved in cheating (including plagiarism or any behavior which could invalidate a graded assignment) the first time in a given class, the student will be assigned a grade of 50 on that work by the teacher. At the principal's discretion, the student may be allowed to retake/redo the assignment up to a maximum score of 80. A second offense will result in a zero on the assignment and disciplinary action.

Behavior that could invalidate a graded assignment includes giving or receiving help on work that should be individual or completed without assistance from others or the internet. If a student is charged with cheating, the teacher will notify parents of the incident and a referral will be filed with the appropriate assistant principal. In any instance where a student is found to have engaged in academic dishonesty or cheating, the student and parents/legal guardians may appeal to the school administration.