

# **ZERO Grading Policy**

**August 2026**

## 1. What This Means for Students

### For Students:

- ✓ No longer have 50 as a grade floor.
- ✓ Grades will reflect the student's actual grade.
- ✓ If a student does not complete or submit an assignment, the recorded grade will be a ZERO.

## 2. Missing and Incomplete Work

Teachers will continue to:

- Provide opportunities for students to seek assistance.
- Maintain accurate and timely gradebook updates.
- Document communication and interventions when students struggle to complete assignments.

## 3. Assessment Requirements

### Major

- Three (3) major assessments, tests, or projects per subject/course.
- English Language Arts courses will administer four (4) major assessments.

### Minor

- Eight (8) minor assessments or assignments.

Teachers should provide multiple opportunities for students to demonstrate understanding and mastery of standards.

## 4. Retake and Redo Opportunities

- ✓ Students may retake or redo major assessments or tests in accordance with the HMS Retake/Redo Policy.
- ✓ Tests/assessments should be given back to students.
- ✓ Students need to know what they missed.

✓ Feedback is required to be given on major assessments

Feedback ~ required- return test, rubric

Reteach ~ go over test w/class, meet w/students ~ decide on how this will be done w/PLC

Retake ~ assess progress towards mastery of content

## 5. High School Credit and Content Recovery

Incomplete or missing work may affect:

- Content recovery eligibility.
- High school credit opportunities.
- Athletic eligibility.
- Overall academic standing.

## 6. What This Means for Teachers

Teacher Responsibilities:

- Grades entered and updated weekly.
  - Assignments should be graded within 5 days.
  - Zeros need to be entered on the day the assignment is due/test given – including absences.
  - Gradebooks will be checked weekly by administration.
- ✓ Remember the PURPOSE of the grade- content mastery~ not weaponizing
- Distinguish between behavior vs learning.
  - Grades that only directly measure learning to reflect MASTERY.
- ✓ Extra credit should be limited to academic opportunities, NOT behaviors.
- ✓ Maintain documentation of communication and interventions as appropriate.
- ✓ Contact parent on day ZERO is entered.
- ✓ Late Work

Schools will accept late work with no penalty to the student **up to 5 days** after the original due date or the end of the grading period, whichever comes first. **A teacher may extend the late work acceptance deadline but may not reduce the time.** The work, although submitted late, will not receive a point reduction. Assessments must be about mastery of content and if graded, the goal is to assess mastery, not behaviors. Work can be accepted late across grading periods by special exception and approval of the teacher and/or administrator.