



Changes to the K-5 Grading System at Talawanda NEW for the 2026-2027 School Year

Grades 3-5 - Moving to a Traditional Letter Grading System (A-F)

We are excited to shift our grades 3–5 to a **traditional letter grade system (A-F)** to provide a more detailed look at your child's overall performance and academic habits. This change aligns our 3rd-5th graders with the expectations they will meet in middle and high school, fostering greater accountability and preparing them for future success.

For families, this transition offers a familiar and intuitive way to track progress. While the numerical scale focused on specific milestones, letter grades allow for a wider range of feedback to distinguish between meeting basic requirements and consistently exceeding them. This system ensures a clearer dialogue between teachers and parents, highlighting exactly where a student excels or may need extra support.

Here is the breakdown of the traditional letter grading system:

- A - 90-100%
- B - 80-89%
- C - 70-79%
- D - 60-69%
- F - 0-59%

Grades K-2 - Remaining with the Numerical Grading System (1-4)

Grades K–2 will continue using the **numerical (1–4) grading system** to best support our youngest learners. At this foundational level, education is focused on the progressive development of core skills and meeting specific developmental milestones rather than a cumulative letter grade. The 1–4 scale provides a precise way for teachers to communicate exactly where a student is in their learning journey—from beginning to explore a concept to achieving mastery—ensuring that families have a clear understanding of their child's growth in these critical early years.

As a reminder, here is a breakdown of the numerical scores:

- 4 - Consistently/Independently Meeting the Standard
- 3 - Meeting the Standard
- 2 - Approaching the Standard
- 1- Not Yet Meeting the Standard