

4th Grade Grading Policy

Grading Philosophy

In 4th grade, **grades are a balanced reflection** of a student's **progress, effort** and **mastery of content**. We value the growth students demonstrate over time and recognize that all **children learn at their own pace**. Our grading system is designed to support a growth mindset, encouraging students to strive, reflect, and improve. Grades are not final judgments but tools to help identify where a student is in their learning journey and how we can best support them.

How Letter Grades Reflect Student Performance

Letter Grade	Description
A (90–100)	Demonstrates excellent content mastery and consistently goes above grade-level expectations. Strong effort and deep engagement are evident.
B (80–89)	Shows solid understanding of grade-level standards with consistent effort. Demonstrates expected progress.
C (70–79)	Shows partial understanding of grade-level standards. Effort is strong, and progress is evident, even if mastery is still developing.
Below 70	Indicates well below grade level mastery of grade-level standards. Additional support and re-teaching are needed. Effort and growth will continue to be supported.

Note: Final failing grades are only assigned in extreme circumstances when all supports have been exhausted.

Assignment Types and Grade Weighting

Assignment Type	Description	Weight
Major Assignments (2 assignments)	Tests, projects, presentations, published writing, and other summative assessments. Usually based on content mastery.	40%
Minor Assignments (8 assignments)	Daily work, skill practice, exit tickets, small group responses, and informal assessments. Usually taken as completion.	60%

- Curriculum-Based Assessments (CBAs) will be used as major grades.
- No single assignment will count for more than 25% of a report card grade.
- Grades are updated ****bi-weekly**** in Skyward.

Second-Chance Learning

We believe all students deserve second chances. This applies to grading as well.

****Individual Retakes****

- Students scoring below 70% on a major assignment may complete a retake or alternative assignment
- Retakes are completed during the school day.
- Original and retake grades are averaged.
- Maximum grade on a retake/corrections is 70%.

****Whole-Class Reassessment****

- If fewer than 70% of the class demonstrates mastery on a major assessment, the teacher will reteach and re-assess.
- A replacement or revised assignment will be given.
- A curve may be applied to original grades using this structure:

Original Grade	Curve Bonus Points
50-59	+15
60-69	+10
70-74	+5
75+	No bonus

> Maximum score after the curve is 90. All reassessment opportunities are provided during class time.

Late Work

- Students are given one day per day of absence to make up work. Late work will be given to students in the classroom
- For late assignments:
 - 10% is deducted per day, up to 5 school days.
 - After 5 school days, the assignment may receive a zero. Parent communication is required before this occurs.
- Teachers may use zeros as placeholders but will replace them upon submission.

Homework

Subject	Homework Policy
Reading	Read at home daily. No reading log is required.
Math	Optional extra practice is sent home on Tuesdays only.

- Homework is not graded but may be incentivized.
- Total homework across subjects will not exceed 40 minutes per night.

Make-Up Work

- Students have as many days to complete work as when they were absent.
- Extensions are granted in extenuating circumstances upon communication with parent or student.
- Procedures for obtaining make-up work will be clearly communicated by the teacher.

Communication

- Teachers update Skyward with grades every ****two weeks****.
- Families receive regular updates through newsletters, email, or Skyward.
- Teachers will reach out directly for concerns or patterns in performance.
- We value partnership with families to support student success.

Final Note to Families

Grades in 4th grade reflect much more than a score. They capture your child's growth, effort, and understanding over time. **We believe in the power of yet:** students may not master every concept immediately, but with the right support and determination, they will get there. Please reach out to us at any time. We are here to help your child succeed.