

POINT ISABEL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT



2018-2019

SECONDARY SUMMIT LEARNING

GRADING GUIDELINES

August 21, 2018

Introduction

The Point Isabel Independent School District believes that in order to provide a more consistent and effective educational foundation for our students, we need clear expectations not only for the instructional components, but also for the grading and reporting components as well.

The goal for all students is to prepare them for a college and/or career. With Summit learning the focus is on the development of cognitive skills and content knowledge in Project Time and Self-Directed Learning (SLD). The grade in Summit Learning show both the competencies students have, as well as the growth they have made. We believe students improve in their abilities throughout the year; thus, grading is designed to reflect and celebrate that.

Academic Dishonesty

Students found to have engaged in academic dishonesty shall be subject to grade penalties on assignments or tests and disciplinary penalties in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct. Academic dishonesty includes cheating or copying the work of another student, plagiarism, and unauthorized communication between students during an examination. The determination that a student has engaged in academic dishonesty shall be based on the judgment of the classroom teacher or another supervising professional employee, taking into consideration written materials, observation, or information from students. EIA (LOCAL)

Grade Requirements

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that each campus or instructional leader develops guidelines for teachers to follow in determining grades for students. These guidelines shall ensure that grading reflects a student's relative mastery of an assignment and that a sufficient number of grades are taken to support the grade average assigned. Guidelines for grading shall be clearly communicated to students and parents.

In accordance with grading guidelines, the District shall permit a student a reasonable opportunity to address deficiencies when a student has failed an assignment or retake a test for which the student received a failing grade. EIA (LOCAL)

The Summit Learning courses focus on preparing students career and college and developing cognitive skills and content knowledge.

Examples of cognitive skills include, critical thinking, analysis, problem-solving, and writing. Examples of content knowledge include quadratic formulas, parts of speech, biomes, and subject specific knowledge.

Summit Learning calculates course grades through a weighted formula.

Weighted Formula for All Core Subject Areas except Math

- Cognitive Skills determine 70% of a course's grade, which is based upon cognitive skills from projects. Only the best grade for each cognitive skill in a course's projects will be counted towards the final grade. Students must pass every project to pass the class.
- Focus area mastery comprises the remaining 30% of the course's grade. Power Focus Areas are worth 21% and Additional Focus Areas are worth 9%. Students pass a Focus Area by passing Content Assessments (tests). Projects have both Power and Additional Focus Areas associated with it. Students must pass all Power Focus Areas to pass a course. Additional Focus Areas are required and they count toward a student's grade. Junior High Advanced and Gifted and

Talented students are required to complete one Additional Focus Area per nine week grading period. Port Isabel High School Pre AP students are required to complete all Additional Focus Areas by the end of the school year.

Weighted Formula For Math

- Concept units determine 70% of a student's score in math. Students receive grades for their demonstration of multiple math concepts in each concept unit. Students must complete every concept unit to pass a class.
- Focus area mastery comprises the remaining 30% of the course's grade. Power Focus Areas are worth 21% and Additional Focus Areas are worth 9%. Students pass a Focus Area by passing Content Assessments (tests). Projects have both Power and Additional Focus Areas associated with it. Students must pass all Power Focus Areas to pass a course. Additional Focus Areas are required and they count toward a student's grade. Junior High Advanced and Gifted and Talented students are required to complete one Additional Focus Area per nine week grading period. Port Isabel High School Pre AP students are required to complete all Additional Focus Areas by the end of the school year.

Rubrics

Rubrics for projects and concept units are included in the Summit Learning platform. Students may resubmit projects or concept units to earn a higher cognitive score.

Reteaching

Reteaching is provided continuously through workshops, peer tutoring and completion of task cards. Reteaching in workshops may vary from subject to subject, class to class, teacher to teacher, and student to student. Reteaching will occur in any area where a student has not demonstrated mastery. Workshops may involve the simple act of repeating the concept to the students or it could require the use of different materials, such as: manipulatives, the inductive approach, deductive approach, and so forth. The main goal is for the student to gain a new and better understanding of the skill.

Retesting

Retesting will occur when a student fails an assessment. Retesting must be approved by the teacher and will require a student to attend a reteaching session prior to retesting. Simulated assessments and NWEA assessments do not qualify for retesting.

Transfer Students

Transfer students who enter the District with a letter grade will have the letter grade transfer to:

Letter Grade	Numerical Grade
A+	100
A	96
A-	90
B+	89
B	86
B-	80
C+	79
C	76
C-	70
D+	69
D	66
D -	60
F	50
E	95
S	85
I	75
N	75
U	65