

# Walla Walla Public Schools

## BOARD POLICY

Policy No. 2420

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### GRADING AND PROGRESS REPORTS

The board believes standards-based grading and reporting is a research based practice that provides consistency across the district on essential learning standards. The reporting process is clear, concise, and provides the stakeholders with accurate information regarding student proficiency.

In assessing the whole child, two separate categories will be reported:

**Academic achievement** which is an accurate evaluation of what a student knows and is able to demonstrate.

**Nonacademic indicators** which describe the actions and behaviors that support achievement.

#### Guiding Principles:

For standards-based grading and reporting to fully impact student achievement, the following principles should be applied.

- Standards-based grading and reporting should be clear and meaningful to all stakeholders.
- Grades/marks should reflect academic standards demonstrating what students know and are able to do.
- Non-academic indicators are essential in understanding the whole child and should be reported on separately from academic grades and marks.
- The teaching of essential standards and providing multiple opportunities/methods to determine proficiency are necessary.
- Quality assessments and rubrics are key to the process.
- Professional development is essential to successful implementation of standards-based grading and reporting.

The board directs the superintendent to establish a system of reporting student progress and shall require all staff members to comply with such a system as part of their teaching responsibility.

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At the beginning of each term, each teacher shall specify in writing the student learning goals or standards for his/her respective courses. If participation is used as the basis of mastery of a goal or standard, a student's grades may be adversely affected if he/she is absent on a day there was a graded participation activity. If the teacher does not so advise students in writing, the teacher may not use attendance and participation in the grading process. Individual students who feel that an unjust application of attendance or tardiness factors has been made, may follow the appeal process for resolving the differences.

A student's grade report may be withheld until such time the student pays for any school property that has been lost or willfully damaged. Upon payment for damages or the equivalency through voluntary work, the grade report will be released. The student or his/her parents/guardians may appeal the imposition of a charge for damages to the superintendent and board of directors.

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Cross References:	Board Policy	3122	Excused and Unexcused Absences
		3520	Student Fees, Fines, Charges
Legal References:	RCW	28A.150.240(2g)	Basic Education Act of 1977--Certificated teaching & administrative staff as accountable for classroom teaching--Scope--Responsibilities--Penalty
		28A.635.060	Defacing or injuring school property--Liability of parent/guardian
		28A.600.030	Grading policies--Option to consider Attendance
	WAC	180-40-235	Discipline--Conditions & limitations
		180-44-010	Responsibilities Related to instruction
		180-57	Secondary Education--Standardized High School Transcript
		392-210	Washington State Honors Award Program

**First Reading: March 19, 2002**  
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