



MIRA MESA HIGH SCHOOL

10510 Marauder Way • San Diego, CA • 92126

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Site Governance Team Meeting Emergency Meeting – Grading Policy Minutes October 26, 2020

Call to order – J. Christensen at 1:30 pm

Attendance

JoAnn Schmidt, Jeff Sabins, Christine Hight, Barbara Shortill, Joe Sabeh, Theresa Suarez, Mike Maheu, Russell Newell, Jeanne Christensen, Alice Reiss-Malone, Daniel Kriley

Grading Policy Change

- ILT Proposal – Fulfill 2 Part Board Directive for Q2
 - Part 1: Remove non-academic factors from academic grade.
 - Part 2: Provide students at least one week to resubmit late work without a grade penalty, and at least one week to retake/redo a test, assessment, assignment or project after a grade is issued or after the teacher provides recommendations for revision.
- Discussion by SGT
 - Part 1
 - Syllabus turned in for points/grade? – Yes, if it is required information before a student can participate akin to turning in a signed Science Lab Instruction Syllabus before a student can participate in lab work. No, if it is just general class information. The latter would fall under the citizenship grade.
 - Not all subjects are the same when it comes to attendance. CCTE, band, ROTC, etc. classes for example where attendance is part of the grade as that is where they show their work by performing each day.
 - Part 2
 - Felt timeline was too short to implement by Q2.
 - 1 week is a minimum. Teachers can choose to extend the one week no penalty deadline. The complexity of some assignments may necessitate a longer extension of the deadline.
 - Spirit of providing the 1 week with no grade penalty is it gives those students who wish to continue learning, a chance to keep trying to master the standard for one week without penalty.



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- 1 week was a compromise District had recommended no deadline to turn in late work or redo an assessment.
- Some teachers already have a no penalty policy for turning in late work.
- Concerns parents will get involved to assist students with work to help raise grades.
- How are other schools handling this? Serra has already been doing this for a year. Students have the semester to turn in late work or retake assessments. Not as many students as you would think take advantage of this option.
- Some parents feel with synchronous/asynchronous learning during COVID-19 restrictions, the flexibility of deadlines and retakes will be beneficial. Some students are working full-time to help support their family, some are taking care of sibling while their parents are working, some are dealing with mental health issues, etc.
- Concern that a large number of students would be turning in late work or requesting to redo assessments or assignments just prior to the end of a grading period. This would make it difficult for teachers to be able to process all these late assignments and additional assessments at the end of a grading period. Can't mandate a teacher to stay after school or work through their lunch to regrade assignments or assessments.
- Can require students to show they went to tutoring or completed an assignment in order to retake an assessment.
- Concern – With this change, what are we teaching our students about the importance of meeting deadlines? Are we preparing them for college and the job market with extending deadlines?
- Some teachers were offended by the District stating they were changing the grading policy to address racism in grading by teachers.
- Grading Based on Mastery – Next Year (Discussion)
 - Students would be graded based on whether they mastered standards and not get based points for turning in homework/assignments or participating in class.
 - Standards based
 - Will need to consider other ways to assess mastery, not just multiple choice or traditional tests. In particular, our ESL and SPED students, and students who do not do well with traditional testing.



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- Doesn't going to the board to explain a math problem or standing in front of class to make a presentation or turning in an assignment (homework) demonstrate mastery? District is still working on competency-based system to accommodate other ways to determine mastery of standard.
- ILT asked for data/research that provided framework on how to rollout standards-based grading (mastery of concept).
- ILT requested technology to assist with grading to align with new standards-based grading. PowerSchool has this available, but our District did not pay for this option.
- Extra credit – Does that go toward the academic or citizenship grade? Depends on if it is social or part of mastery of standard. If a student attends an event outside of class and then completes a written assignment afterwards that aligns with the standards, then can possibly be considered in the academic grade.
- Concerns
 - Some students do not do well on tests and count on homework and participation/effort points to get a passing grade.
 - ESL & SPED students may see more D's and F's without points for effort and homework.
 - Worried students will not do assignments, homework and/or participate in class if this is not graded.
 - Eligibility for Athletes – What happens if a student does not master a standard and now, they do not qualify to participate in sports. No longer have homework/assignment points or effort points to help boost their grade?
 - How do you account for those students who consistently turn in assignments on time vs those who consistently turn them in late? No benefit of turning in assignments on time.
 - For assessment retakes do you give the same test or new test with different questions? Up to the teacher. May be more difficult for some subjects.
 - What do you do for group projects, performances, Socratic seminars for those individuals who miss these assignments? Individual student would have to have a separate assignment to make up for missed assignment.
- Benefits
 - Would benefit students who do well on tests but do not to turn in homework/assignments or participate in class.



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- This will do away with students receiving points for going to an after-school performance or sporting event, participating in a fundraiser, etc. This was discriminatory as some students did not have money to attend these events/fundraise.
- Will do away with subjective grading where a teacher may be biased based on a student's religion or political view.
- Motion
 - J. Christensen motions to accept the grading policy as outlined by ILT. ILT Proposal – Fulfill 2 Part Board Directive for Q2
Part 1: Remove non-academic factors from academic grade.
Part 2: Provide students at least one week to resubmit late work without a grade penalty, and at least one week to retake/redo a test, assessment, assignment or project after a grade is issued or after the teacher provides recommendations for revision.
 - Seconded by D. Kriley
 - 10 all in favor, 1 abstention
 - Motion approved. Will go out to staff tonight.

Roundtable

- Students would like to see more videos or positive messages from other students. M5 is not available right now as those students are still learning. Will be available next quarter. Will explore this idea and reach out to coaches, clubs, etc. Students could submit video they created on their own devices (i.e. cell phones)
- Requested staff members receive clarification of what the new grading policy is for Q2 vs. the change to mastery of standard next year. Jeff will send out an email, and provide clarification during his office hours. District felt we could phase in some changes immediately and other changes by next year.
- Citizenship Rubric – No longer will U's count as 0 in calculating grade point average. A U will count as 1.
- Cheating on assignments and assessments is an issue. Consequences are the same.

Meeting Ended – 2:35 pm

Next SGT Meeting – Zoom meeting November 10, 2020 at 1:30 pm