

# **Patriot Oaks Academy**

## *Research-based Grading Practices*

In order to best serve our school community, support our implementation of the Florida Standards, align with other county schools, and most importantly, benefit student learning, these are a summary of Patriot Oaks Academy's grading practices. We believe consistency within grade levels, departments and along vertical alignments are keys to student success.

### **All graded work**

- Must reflect a learning standard.
  - Weights for standards-based grades across curriculum in grades 3-8 equal:
    - 80% for assessments;
    - 20% for assignments and projects done in class; and
    - 0% for homework, which is considered independent practice.All homework must have a purpose and receive feedback.
- We have a "no opt-out" policy.

### **Example weights for grades 3-5**

Cold reads	40%
Readings skills	40%
Spelling	10%
Vocabulary	10%

### **Progress reports for primary (K-2) will follow this scale:**

85-100	Mastering
70-85	Progressing
0-69	Needs improvement

### **Earned Zeros**

- The definition of an earned zero is that all questions are wrong.
- Incomplete and late work can be marked with an incomplete. But when work is turned in prior to the summative assessment, credit is given with minimal deductions for assignments.
- The expectation is that incomplete work is unacceptable and that students will do their work, with regular reinforcement of this policy by the teachers.

### **Test/Quiz retakes**

- New tests/quizzes are allowed to demonstrate mastery for all students who request it. Remediation is to be established by the teacher. The new assessment format is also up to the teacher. Reassessment may occur until mastery is accomplished, at the teacher's discretion, until the end of the marking period.
- Assignments given in advance, with communication that a retake is not available, may be used at a teacher's discretion.
- To meet retake requirements, students must complete all assignments (including test review); make all test corrections; plus other remediation required by individual professional educator.
- The new grade replaces the old grade.

### **Extra credit**

Due to the availability students will have to retake tests and recover from low grades, extra credit is not necessary.

### **Late work**

- Late work is accepted, with minimal deduction, until a summative assessment.
- Projects may have up to a 20% deduction for late work; expectations must be communicated clearly in rubric.

### **Projects**

- Grading at intervals (classwork). Not one final grade at the end.
- Group projects should not be graded as a group. Individual demonstration of learning should be recorded.
- Projects should be completed in class if assigned a class grade(s) and demonstrate mastery of standards.
- It should be expected that parents COULD assist with projects that are assigned for home. Knowing this, make this a consideration in the communication home, provide guidance and ways that parents COULD be a part of the assignment... in other words, embrace the parental guidance rather than it being punitive. Make suggestions for what students should be able to complete on their own and how parents could assist.