

## Grading for the 2020-21 School Year

Thank you to the many educators, parents, and students who provided input regarding modifications to grading procedures and practices in the Bellevue School District to mitigate the impact of remote learning on grades. From all constituents, the overwhelming theme we heard was *compassion for students and prioritization of social, emotional, and mental health*. After much consideration of input from stakeholders, the Superintendent's Executive Team made the following decision in light of the prolonged remote learning context of teaching and learning this year. In addition, a Grading Advisory Team was established this year to work on a longer-term approach to the implementation of equitable grading practices. Information on the work of that team can be found on the [district website](#).

### Summary

#### Secondary Credit-Bearing Courses

- **"F" Grades:** All "F" grades will be replaced with "NC" (no credit). The "NC" designation will not earn credit and will not be included in calculating the grade-point average (GPA).
- **"P" Grade Option:** Students may opt for a "P" designation to replace any passing grade (A-D). The "P" designation *will earn credit*; but will not be included in calculating the grade-point average (GPA).

#### Middle School Courses (Non-credit-bearing)

- **"F" Grades:** All "F" grades will be replaced with "NE" (not sufficient evidence)

#### Elementary

- **"NE" Designation:** Elementary educators may indicate "NE" if insufficient evidence is available to assign a score for any standard.

## Explanation

### Secondary Credit-Bearing Courses

**Grading Scale:** There are not changes to the grading scale found in the Bellevue School District [Procedure 2420P](#). However, individual educators may vary from the scale, given the circumstances of this school year.

*Current Secondary Scale found in Bellevue School District [Procedure 2420P](#).*

Letter Grade	A (Credit/Pass)	B (Credit/Pass)	C (Credit/Pass)	D (Credit/Pass)	F* No Credit
GPA Equivalent	4.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	0
Synergy Numerical Scale	90-100%	80-89%	70-79%	60-69%	0-59%

*\*NOTE: "F" will be converted to "NC" in high school credit courses and "NE" for middle school non-credit courses*

**"F" Grades:** All "F" grades will be replaced with "NC" (no credit).

Continuing with the theme of compassion for students and maintaining students' social, emotional, and mental health above all else, no "F" grades will be recorded this year. Students will be assigned a designation of "NC" (no credit) which *will not earn credit and will not be calculated in the GPA*. [Procedure 2420P](#) allows for a designation of NC in rare and extenuating circumstances with principal approval. Given all students are

experiencing rare and extenuating circumstances this year, principal approval will not be required. Assigning a grade of “I” continues to be an option for educators, as noted in [Procedure 2420P](#) which allows students to complete coursework and demonstrate proficiency, then replace the designation with a grade. Once the replacement grade is determined, students will have one week to choose a “P” designation in place of the grade utilizing a form that will be provided. If the “I” grade is not converted to a passing grade by the end of the next grading period, the “I” will remain on the transcript permanently. Principal approval will not be required. An “I” that remains on the transcript *will not earn credit and will not be calculated in the GPA.*

**“P” Option:** Students may opt for a “P” designation in place of a passing (A-D) grade. The “P” designation *will earn credit; but will not be included in the GPA calculation.* Students may opt for a “P” grade in any credit-bearing course by notifying the school registrar no later than 5:00pm February 8, 2021 (first semester) and 5:00 pm June 24, 2021 (second semester). The process is under development and will be provided to students prior to the end of the semester. The “P” designation will be noted on the report card and transcript, but the gradebook will continue to show students’ actual grades. A letter from the District will be attached to all transcripts provided to colleges to explain “NC” and “P” designations.

#### Middle School Non-Credit-Bearing Courses

**Grading Scale:** There are not changes to the grading scale found in the Bellevue School District [Procedure 2420P](#). However, individual educators may vary from the scale, given the circumstances of this school year.

**“F” Grades:** All “F” grades will be replaced with “NE” (not sufficient evidence) Continuing with the theme of compassion for students and maintaining students’ social, emotional, and mental health above all else, no “F” grades will be recorded this year. Students will be assigned a designation of “NE” for any course where the student did not demonstrate sufficient evidence of learning to earn a passing grade.

#### Elementary Progress Reports

**Grading Scale:** No changes

Table 3: Current Elementary Scale

Score	4	3	2	1	NI
Meaning	Exceeds Standard	Meets Standard	Approaches Standard	Below Standard	Not Introduced

**“NE” Designation:** There are some circumstances where educators may have insufficient evidence to determine if a student has met a particular standard. If that is the case, that standard will be blank on the report card with an explanation in the comment section.