

11/18/2009

Fowler Parents,

In this last Legislative Session, a new law was enacted that requires a school district to adopt a grading policy prior to the beginning of school each school year that includes provisions for the assignment of grades on class assignments and exams. The policy (1) must require that a classroom teacher assign a grade that reflects the student's relative mastery of an assignment; (2) may not require a classroom teacher to assign a minimum grade for an assignment without regard to the student's quality of work; and (3) may allow a student a reasonable opportunity to make up or redo a class assignment or exam for which the student received a failing grade. This law was not fully interpreted and implemented into policy until last month with the latest Localized Policy Update 86.

In the past Fisd did not assign a grade below 50 on a report card due to concerns that a student would feel that bringing his/her grade up from below that level would be too challenging. Beginning with the new grading period on Monday, November 16, we will adhere to the law and a student's grade on the report card will reflect the actual grade obtained.

We will continue, as always, to work to provide opportunities for students to be successful through tutoring, re-teaching, and the ability to make-up or redo an assignment or exam in which the student received a failing grade. At the high school level, this will now also apply to Pre-AP and AP courses. Please see the Fowler Student Handbook Addendum for make-up work/re-test guidelines.

Sincerely,

Donnie J. Wiseman
Principal, Fowler Middle School