

Stafford 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 3rd six weeks grading period, 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, reteaching 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 Stafford Student Handbook Addendum for make-up work/re-test guidelines.

Sincerely,

Robin Scott
Principal, Stafford Middle School