

BASIC INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM
GRADING SYSTEM/PROMOTION – RETENTION

GRADING SYSTEM

The following grading system is in effect in Bath County Schools for report cards:

A	94-100	Excellent
B	86-93	Above Average
C	78-85	Average
D	70-77	Below Average
F	69 & below	Failing
I	Incomplete, work must be made up to receive a grade	
P	Progressing below grade level, may fail	

Beginning with the 2020-2021 school year, a 10-point grading scale will be used in grades 2-12. Grades from prior years will not be retroactively altered.

A	90-100	Excellent
B	80-89	Above Average
C	70-79	Average
D	60-69	Below Average
F	59 & below	Failing
I	Incomplete, work must be made up to receive a grade	

Kindergarten and Grade 1 Social/Emotional, Physical and Intellectual Development and Grade 2-7 Physical Education, Art, Music, and Band shall consist of:

S	Satisfactory
W	Working On
N	Needs Improvement
(Blank)	Skill Has Not Been Introduced

Report cards will be issued four (4) times during the school year, at the end of each 9-week grading period, and progress reports (for all students) will be sent home at the midpoint of each grading period. Parents or guardians shall sign report cards and progress reports, as requested, and return them to the school.

Numerical grades will be used on college transcripts for those institutions that have no differentiating letter scales for unequal letter comparisons. Numerical grades will be used on all cumulative scholastic achievement records.

Each teacher will develop a grading system appropriate for his/her class that will be equivalent to the grading scale. Approximately 75% of each grading period will be based on homework, projects, quizzes, tests, class participation, etc. Approximately 25% will be determined by achievement on comprehensive chapter, unit or nine-week tests. Semester and final examinations will be given in all classes at the secondary level and where appropriate at the elementary level.

The semester grades for the report card will be calculated using the following formula: the average of two nine-week grades shall count 80% of the semester grade with the exam counting 20% (optional if an exam is administered at the elementary level).

The annual grade shall be the average of the two semester grades.

All graded work, homework, quizzes, tests, etc. for the elementary grades shall be sent home weekly for parental signature.

To earn a state diploma, each pupil shall meet all local and state requirements for graduation, including SOL testing requirements.

The principal, teacher, and school counselor will review all student failures at the end of each grading period. They may suggest differentiation in the classroom, remedial work, other alternatives for the student, or further referral to the Child Study Team. Any remedial or alternative program to which a pupil is referred by the Child Study Team shall require written parental permission. Copies of these contracts are to be approved by the principal.

PROMOTION/RETENTION

Pupils shall be promoted by achieving at least 60% of the grade level/subject curriculum. A pupil achieving less than 60% of the grade level/subject curriculum will be reviewed by the teacher, school counselor, and principal for options.

While a student at grades 3, 5 & 8 will not be retained based exclusively on SOL tests, a student failing to meet a passing rate on the SOL test in reading/language or mathematics will be assigned to a SOL remediation program which may include, but will not be limited to, summer school, after school tutoring or special remediation classes during the school day beyond the 5 ½ hour day.

This promotion/retention policy does not exclude students from membership in a grade, or participation in a course, in which SOL tests are to be administered.

In grades K-8, the SOL test results will be used as one of a set of multiple criteria when determining whether students are promoted or retained. Other criteria to be considered may include, but not be limited to the end-of-year grades, prior retentions, and/or attendance.

At the high school level, SOL test results may be used as part of the requirements for applicable courses, such as pre-requisites for higher-level classes, etc. Bath County Public Schools will not use SOL test results to withhold awarding a standard unit of credit for a course solely because a student failed a related SOL test.

Placement without academic progress is discouraged and may be made only in the primary grades at the insistence of the parents after a review by the principal. Such pupils are to be designated as placed rather than promoted. Pupils placed by parents shall be reviewed by the Child Study Team quarterly. Parents will be invited to participate in the review. After being placed, failure of such pupils to achieve a 60% average will result in automatic retention the following year.

The Principal shall have the authority and responsibility to assign pupils to the appropriate classes and teachers.

The resolution of disagreements regarding the grading system or promotion – retention issues shall be followed through the Principal, the Superintendent, and finally to the School Board.

Adopted: December 13, 2019
