

## **2.009 Grading System**

The policy of the Board of Directors is to strive for a consistent and just evaluation of each student at Ascend Leadership Academy. To ensure the effectiveness of this policy, the Board of Directors endorses the following beliefs and best practices:

- Student grades should reflect academic achievement
- While attendance and behavior may influence a student's learning, they should be reported separately, and not a factor in the student's grade
- Teachers should compare each student's performance against pre-set standards, not against the performance of other students.
- For missing work, teachers should provide reasonable opportunities to complete make-up assignment(s) in order to demonstrate the targeted learning
- Teachers should provide students and their parents with a clear explanation of their grading practices including the weighting of formative and summative assessments and rubrics as appropriate.
- All assessments and assignments, including teacher-made tests should be aligned with the Common Core State Standards, North Carolina Essential Standards, and/or the Ascend Leadership Academy Charter and education plan and be designed to assess student achievement accurately.

### **Grading Scale**

In all grade levels in which letter and/or numerical grades are given, the grading scale shall be as follows:

- A = 90-100 Excellent
- B = 80-89 Above Average
- C = 70-79 Average
- D = 60-69 Proficient
- F = 0-59 Not Proficient

### **Grading Parameters**

Students earn grades based on material outlined in the Common Core State Standards and the North Carolina Essential Standards. For the first three grading periods (quarters), the minimum grade is 50. Percentage grades will be used on report cards, cumulative folders, and transcripts.

The following grading parameters are in place for the 2018-2019 school year and will be followed by all Ascend Leadership Academy:

- **Make-up Work** – When a student is absent, the student has 3 days to turn in missed work upon returning to school. The day the student returns to school is Day 1 of the 3 days.
- **Late Work** – Teachers shall have autonomy to develop a late work policy within their grade level teams. Before each school year the grade level teams will determine their late work policy and communicate it to their student's parents. When determining their policy teachers shall consider how the policy effectively helps them assess student

comprehension of the curriculum and not student behaviors. ALA's administration must approve any late work policy before it is implemented.

- The final grade for the first three quarters will not be less than 50.
- Teachers will have autonomy when determining grade categories weights/percentages. (classwork, homework, Tests, etc.) Teachers will communicate these weights/percentages with ALA's administration and parents at the beginning of each school year.
- When completing team/group assignments, students shall not be penalized for the incomplete work of others. In some situations, the student could receive a group grade and an individual grade. Teachers will determine whether they assign a group and individual grade.
- The final grade may include tests, quizzes, projects, group/team work, labs, research papers, homework, class participation, classwork, etc.