



STANDARDS REFERENCED GRADING

As part of our efforts to empower all learners, the Ballard Community School District is transitioning to **Standards Referenced Grading (SRG)** to improve our grading practices.

SRG will allow us to consistently and clearly communicate students' current proficiency in meeting standards so that grades are an accurate reflection of their learning. With SRG, students will understand where they are and where they need to be by the end of each class or grade level.



DISTRICT GRADING VISION STATEMENT

Ballard Community School District commits to consistently and clearly communicating students' current proficiency in meeting standards, so grades are a reflection of student learning.



GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR GRADING



CONSISTENT

- Student performance of the same academic level will receive the same grade, even if the teacher is different.
- Teachers will only use grading practices that accurately communicate achievement, not those that distort accuracy.



CLEAR

- A 4-point scale will be used in all courses.
- Grades will be determined, not calculated, by a body of student evidence.



MEANINGFUL COMMUNICATION

- Student behaviors that contribute to college and career readiness will be reported separately from the academic grade.
- Feedback related to clear learning targets will be timely and help students reflect and improve their performance on upcoming practice and assessment opportunities.



SUPPORTIVE OF STUDENT LEARNING

- Students will have multiple opportunities to practice without penalty and to demonstrate their proficiency.



GRADING SCALE

With SRG, students will receive a score of 1-4 on a proficiency scale:

4

EXCEEDING

The student consistently and independently demonstrates understanding of grade-level standards. Student performance reveals they consistently demonstrate in-depth inferences and applications that go beyond what was explicitly taught in class.

3

MEETING

The student consistently and independently demonstrates understanding of information and skills - simple and complex - that represent grade-level standards and expectations for learning.

2

PROGRESSING

The student demonstrates understanding of foundational information and skills that are represented in grade-level standards. Though the student has gaps in learning with more complex information and skills, he/she is progressing toward understanding grade-level standards.

1

BEGINNING

The student demonstrates significant gaps in understanding information and skills that are represented in grade-level standards. Progress toward approaching grade-level standards is inconsistent.



A 3-PHASE APPROACH

We will implement SRG in phases, starting in fall 2022:

PHASE 1: FALL 2022

- K-8 grade levels (with the exception of PE/Health, Music, Art, Agriculture, and FCS)

PHASE 2: FALL 2023

- K-8 PE/Health, Music, Art, Agriculture, and FCS courses

PHASE 3: FALL 2024

- All 9th-12th grade courses

QUESTIONS?

We will continue to share information with our families regarding SRG. To get the most up-to-date information, visit www.ballardsrg.org. If you have any questions, please contact your student's building principal or Katie Claeys, the Director of Teaching and Learning, at kclaeys@ballard.k12.ia.us or (515) 597-2811 x1011.

