



Reynolds Middle School
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October 29, 2012

Dear Reynolds Middle School Families:

I would like to take a moment to talk to you about an important initiative being instituted statewide and in the Reynolds School District.

A piece of legislation known as House Bill 2220 (HB2220) has mandated a change in the way public schools at all grades and particularly at the secondary level, approach the grading of students. In years past, in a traditional A-F grading system, all too often a grade in one class for a particular student performance or demonstration of skill would be different than one for the same performance or demonstration across the hall. Subjective measures of academic achievement more often than not came into play.

HB2220 is an effort statewide to instill some quality control regarding student grades and moreover provide objectivity with regard to students achieving particular academic standards. In practical terms, if a student is achieving or exceeding academic standards in a particular class, then state test scores should reflect the same type of achievement.

As such, middle and high schools in the Reynolds School District have moved toward a proficiency-based model of grading in which students will be graded on tests and projects (summative assessments), but will generally not be graded on classwork or homework (formative assessments). Our goal as a district is to establish consistent grading practices within all of our schools. We hope that the proficiency-based model of grading accomplishes that end.

We know that the change in grading policy will inevitably create some confusion for our families, but we are committed to providing timely, accurate information aimed at better serving each and every one of our students. If you have any questions regarding the policy change, please don't hesitate to contact me at (503) 665-8166, Ext. 3421, or at stalus@rsd7.net.

Sincerely,

Stacy Talus
Reynolds Middle School Principal