

Making the Grade for College and Career Readiness

Updates to encourage, challenge and assist students in their pursuit of being college and career ready upon graduating from high school

Text Exemptions

Who it Applies To

- Seniors
- Students in grades 9-11

What it Means

- Seniors can earn exemptions from **all** semester finals (both semesters)
- Students in grades 9-11 can earn exemptions from two finals each semester

How to Earn Exemptions

- Must have at least a B average in the class
- No more than three absences in any given class
- No more than three tardies in any given class
- Cannot have been suspended or missed class due to truancy during the semester

Why the Change?

This change insures that students in grades 9-11 will take at least some comprehensive finals. Why is that a good thing?

- Students who take comprehensive finals have the opportunity to improve their organizational and study skills, a step toward college readiness.
- Students who take comprehensive finals have the chance to pull together and connect all the major ideas and concepts from the class.

Course Weighting

Who it Applies To

- Students in grades 9-10
(no changes for students now in grades 11-12)

What It Means

Beginning with students in the class of 2020, AP classes, Pre-AP classes and concurrent courses will be weighted using a 4.5 scale with the notation that passing the corresponding AP exam (score of 3, 4, or 5) will add an additional .5 weight to the AP course (5.0 scale).

Why the Change?

- Encourages enrollment into AP courses
- Encourages students to take the corresponding AP exam of the courses they are enrolled in
- Encourages students who would normally not take an AP or Pre-AP course to enroll in a concurrent course

Both updates are in effect beginning with the 2017-2018 school year. If you have questions please contact your administrators or counselors.

