

BOARD POLICY**Descriptive Code: IHA****STATEWIDE PASSING SCORE****Date: August 28, 2007**

The minimum passing score is defined as the lowest possible score that a student can earn and still meet the requirements for completion of a subject or grade.

The Columbia County board of Education establishes 70 as the minimum passing score for all subjects/courses taught in Grades 4-12 in the Columbia County School System.

Each school containing kindergarten students shall provide a skills checklist progress report once every nine weeks using the statewide assessment scale.

Each school containing Grades 1-2 shall provide a letter grade (A, B, C, D, F) for language arts and mathematics and S+, S, NI and U for social studies and science.

Each school containing Grade 3 shall provide a letter grade (A, B, C, D, F) for the four core subjects.

Each school containing any Grades 4-5 shall determine the final grade by the numerical average of the four nine weeks grade.

Each school containing Grades 6-8 shall record and maintain numerical grades of students in all courses. Each school containing any Grades 6-8 shall calculate the final average for core courses not requiring an End of Course Test (EOCT) by counting each semester grade as 50% of the final average. The final grade for career connections courses is the final nine-week average as calculated by the individual teacher. All courses offered for unit credit in the middle schools shall follow the grading criteria of the corresponding high school course. Courses offered for unit credit in middle school must be satisfactorily completed in entirety in order for the student to receive one full unit credit. No half-credits will be granted as a result of partial completion of a course unit credit in middle school.

Each school containing any Grades 9-12 shall record and maintain numerical grades of students in all courses for which credit is given in those courses.

Each school containing any Grades 9-12 shall calculate the semester average for courses not requiring an EOCT by counting each nine week grade as 42.5% and the semester exam as 15% of the semester average. One half unit of credit shall be awarded for each course in which the semester average meets or exceeds the minimum passing score.

Beginning in the 2004-2005 School Year, end-of-course tests shall be used as the final exam in the courses assessed by an EOCT. EOCT reports shall provide students, parents and educators with individual scores for each EOCT taken. Student scores must be recorded on, in, or with individual student report cards. A student's numeric score on an EOCT shall count as 15% of the student's numeric grade in the course assessed by the EOCT.

All incomplete grades for students in Grades 9-12 must be finalized by the end of the following semester. Any incomplete grade not finalized by the end of the following semester will be recalculated assigning a grade of zero for any missing grade. In cases of extreme hardship due to the illness of the student, the principal may request a waiver for an additional semester from the superintendent.

No classroom teacher shall be required, coerced, intimidated, or disciplined in any manner by the local board of education, superintendent, or any local administrator to change a grade unless the teacher has failed to comply with grading policies or procedures adopted by the local board of education or procedures established by an individual school. Any grade change made by a person other than the classroom teacher must be clearly indicated in the student's school record and must indicate the person responsible for making such grade change.

AUTHORITY O.C.G.A. 20-2-240; 20-2-281; 20-2-989.20

PROCEDURE: Yes

ADOPTED: 8-10-04

REVISED: 8-10-04, 10-12-04

Columbia County Board of Education