

Delaware Valley School District

Fourth Quarter Grading

How will the students be graded in the fourth quarter?

If students have a passing grade in a class for the fourth quarter, they will receive an A+ on their report card for the fourth quarter. If students have a failing grade in a class for the fourth quarter, they will receive an F on their report card for the fourth quarter.

Fourth Quarter Evaluation	Numerical Equivalent	Letter Grade on Report Card
If passing	100	A+
If failing	64	F

Why was the “A+ or F” option chosen over A-F or Pass/Fail?

This was an incredibly difficult decision to make because no two families are alike in dealing with the pandemic. This chart gives some examples:

Exclusive use of technology devices	Shared use of technology devices
Strong, reliable Internet	Less reliable or no Internet
Plenty of parent supervision	Little or no parent supervision
Parent able to help with homework	Parent unable to help with homework
Economic stability	Economic stress
Food security	Food insecurity
Stable home	Housing insecurity
Healthy family	Illness and/or death

If we used A-F letter grades, students on the right side of the chart would be at a significant disadvantage. Being physically present in school allows us to help address these issues but without that presence, the divide grows. This could have huge ramifications on student GPA, class rank and future merit-based college financial aid.

If we used a simple Pass/Fail system, student motivation would have been far less. We know that for a fact because several neighboring districts confirmed that student participation and motivation decreased dramatically once Pass/Fail was announced.

We wanted our students to continue putting forth as much effort as possible like they did in the first three quarters. Therefore, we delayed a public announcement on grading to help keep that effort up as much as possible for as long as possible.

We thank all of the students and parents for their patience leading up to this announcement. There are pros and cons to both the A-F and Pass/Fail grading systems. We think that the “A+ or F” strategy gives us the best of both worlds.

Who do I call if I have questions about grades, retention, summer school or other academic questions?

During the school year (which ends on June 17), it is best to start with the applicable teacher if it is about academic performance. After June 17, please contact your child’s counselor. The counselors work several extra days beyond June 17 to assist in the wrap-up of the school year and help secondary students enroll in summer school.

What are the important academic dates coming up?

May 28 – last day of new instruction

May 29 – catch-up day

June 1-17 enrichment/review days

June 10 – last day for students to submit assignments

June 17 – last day of school

June 19 – final grades will be posted in PowerSchool no later than this date