



Bluffton Middle School **Grading Policy 2016-17**

Grading Procedures/Practices

Numerical grades are mandated in SC Middle Schools and the minimum passing grade is 60%.

Grading System: A = 90-100%, B = 80-89%, C = 70-79%, D = 60-69% F=0-59%

Honor Roll

Principal's Honor Roll = Students must receive all A's in all classes.

Honor Roll = Students must receive all A's and B's in all classes.

Grading Periods

All student grades are posted in PowerSchool. In addition, official reporting periods are determined for each school year and listed on the school calendar.

Progress Reports

Progress reports are sent home to parents/guardians of all students at the midpoint of each quarter. The purpose of these reports is to communicate student progress in all classes.

Distribution dates are indicated on the calendar in the months of September, November, February and April.

Report Cards

Report cards are sent home at the end of each quarter. Distribution dates are indicated on the calendar in the months of October, January, March and May.

Failure/Remediation

A student in grades 6-7-8 fails a particular subject for the school year if the student's final average in that subject is below 60%. Retention (repeating the grade level) will be considered when a student earns a failing grade in English, math, science or social studies (1-2 failures will require summer school participation but 3 or more failures will result in retention). In addition, students may be retained if they do not meet attendance requirements of Beaufort County School District. Parents are encouraged to check Parent Portal for up to date student coursework and monitor progress. Teachers will contact parents when the student drops below a 70% as well as send interim reports and report cards at the scheduled time.

Grade Changes

Grades cannot be changed without following district-established procedures which include explicit consent of the teacher. The district follows the statewide guidelines for grading/assessment.

Grade Floor

Student grades are recorded as earned. BLMS does not include a grade floor in the grading policy. Students who are scoring below 70 consistently on assignments, tests and quizzes will be referred for possible support or intervention.

Homework

Homework will be assigned in all classes to appropriately support lessons taught in class. Students are expected to complete all assigned work. Students who consistently struggle with the completion of homework assignments will be referred for possible support and intervention.

Late Work

Students are expected to complete assignments by their due date. Support and intervention will be offered if a student consistently struggles with the completion of assignments. Teachers will communicate late work policies that are equitable and support student success within each quarter. A maximum of 20% deduction may be applied to the late assignment. Late work must be submitted 3 days before the end of the quarter.

Retesting

Students needing to achieve content mastery may retest at teacher discretion following a student-teacher conference and reteach of identified skill weaknesses.

Core Subjects (Math, ELA, Science, and Social Studies)

Summative	60%	The goal for summative assessment is to evaluate student learning at the end of an instructional unit.	Tests, projects, presentations, performance tasks, DBQs, essays, science projects, and lab reports.
Formative	30%	The goal of formative assessments is to monitor student learning and provide ongoing feedback. Adjustments to instructional strategies and activities may be implemented to further comprehension.	Journals, notebooks, warm-ups, classwork, quizzes, and closure activities.
Personal Responsibility	10%	The goal of this category is to provide the student meaningful activities to challenge their individual levels with materials that enrich/modify the concepts being studied.	Homework, classwork.

Explore/Discover Team

Visual Arts		
Summative	60%	Projects,
Formative	30%	Classwork, quizzes, skills building
Personal Responsibility	10%	Warm-ups
Physical Education		
Summative	60%	Skills assessment
Formative	30%	Skills Practice & Building, quizzes, warm-ups
Personal Responsibility	10%	Closure Activities
Music		
Summative	60%	Playing and written tests
Formative	30%	Performances, daily technique assessment
Personal Responsibility	10%	Practice charts
Gateway to Technology		
Summative	60%	Projects, tests
Formative	30%	Classwork, skill building activities, quizzes
Personal Responsibility	10%	Homework
Exploratory Spanish		
Summative	60%	Tests, quizzes, projects
Formative	30%	Classwork, Rosetta Stone
Personal Responsibility	10%	Homework