



Douglas County School System Elementary School Grading Guidelines

Grades

Kindergarten:

- First, Second, and Third 9 Weeks: Satisfactory, Needs Improvement, Unsatisfactory
- Fourth 9 Weeks: Georgia Kindergarten Inventory of Developmental Skills (GKIDS)

First – Fifth Grades:

- A = 90 to 100
- B = 80 to 89
- C = 71 to 79
- D = 70
- F = Below 70

Art, Music, and Physical Education

- S = Satisfactory
- N = Needs Improvement
- U = Unsatisfactory

Conduct

Student conduct shall be evaluated as follows:

S = Satisfactory

N = Needs Improvement

U = Unsatisfactory

Number of Grades Per Nine (9) Weeks

Grades should reflect a student's relative mastery of an assignment and that a sufficient number of grades are taken to support the grade average assigned. Teachers will take a minimum of nine (9) grades in each subject area in Reading, English/Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies.

Notification of Failure

The Principal should establish school procedures requiring parent/guardian notification prior to a student's receiving a failing grade as a final grade for an evaluation period. At a minimum, parents should be contacted by progress report time.

Makeup Work

All students will receive credit for satisfactory makeup work after an excused absence. A student will be given as many days as he/she was absent to make up tests and assignments. Teachers are not required to provide assignments prior to an absence.

Extra Credit

Extra Credit opportunities will be provided consistently across grade levels at the discretion of the principal and must be academic in nature.

CDA (Common District Assessments)

- Teachers may allow students the opportunity to retest after a period of remediation determined by the teacher.
- Teachers must obtain prior approval from their principal for the development of a retest CDA.
- Retest CDAs should be developed by a group of two or more teachers from the same subject area/grade.
- Retest CDAs must be the same format, using similar standards and assessment strategies as the original CDA.
- The original CDA grade can be replaced with a retest CDA grade.

Homework

Homework will not be counted for a grade unless it is a project that will be graded with a rubric. Estimated times for daily homework are shown below. (This time incorporates reading.)

Kindergarten and First Grade	15-20 minutes
Second Grade	20-30 minutes
Third Grade	30-40 minutes
Fourth Grade	40-50 minutes
Fifth Grade	50-60 minutes

If two or more teachers are working with a student, the homework should be coordinated to adhere to the estimated daily homework schedule. Because students work at different paces, it may take some students more or less time to complete assignments.

Homework is work that is assigned to be completed at home or in a designated after school program.

No new concepts should be included in homework unless using a flipped classroom approach.

Homework is not to be assigned on weekends, before holidays, or during holidays with the exception of previously scheduled special reports and/or projects.

Homework is an effective tool in developing responsibility, study habits, and skills. It is an extension of the learning process and involves the home in the child's curriculum. It should be purposeful, related to classroom experience, and be age and grade appropriate. The purpose and directions for the assignments need to be clearly communicated and should be preceded by instruction that adequately prepared the child to do the task independently and successfully.

Teacher Responsibilities

- To provide meaningful tasks that enrich and supplement work introduced in class
- To communicate homework assignments, both regular and long-range in an appropriate framework
- To provide effective instruction prior to assigning homework that adequately prepares the child to do the task independently and successfully
- To provide course requirements and expectations at the beginning of each grading period to students and parents
- To consider available resources, materials, and home situations when assigning a task

Parent Responsibilities

- To establish a specific time, place, and manner for homework to be completed
- To monitor as needed, but not do homework for the student
- To assist the student in planning a time schedule for long-term assignments/projects
- To initiate communication with the teacher when concerns arise
- To promote 15-20 minutes of reading each night

Student Responsibilities

- To complete assigned work on time and return it to the teacher
- To plan to carefully schedule work on long-term assignments so that assignments will be completed on time
- To communicate with the teacher when he/she does not understand the assignments or is experiencing difficulty prior to the due date
- To read 15-20 minutes per night

APPEALS

A student/parent has 5 business days from the date report cards are issued to appeal the final grade. The appeal must be made in writing to the principal and the decision of the principal is final.