

Uniform Grading Policy

School Counselors

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Presenters

- * Dr. Ed Johnson, Office of Student Intervention Services
School Counselors/Career Specialists Liaison
- * Ms. Katina Montgomery, Office of Virtual Education
VirtualSC School Counselor
- * Mr. Wyatt Cothran, Office of Research and Data Analysis
Data Management Coordinator
- * Mrs. Kama Staton, Office of Career and Technology
Education, WBL & Career Guidance

Uniform Grading Policy

- Tuesday, April 12, 2016, Dr. Julie Fowler and Dr. Sheila Quinn presented the 10-point Uniform Grading Policy to the State Board of Education.
- The State Board of Education (SBE) unanimously voted to implement a 10-point grading scale and conversion chart effective in the 2016–17 school year.
- Beginning with the 2016–17 school year, all districts will implement the 10-point scale in courses for high school credit.

Rationale for 10-Point Scale

- Gives South Carolina Students a fair opportunity to apply for admissions and scholarships
 - All surrounding States are on a 10-point scale
- Provides continuity for military families and students
- Provides a seamless transition from high school to college outlined in the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate

Uniform Grading Policy

10-Point Scale

Today's Objectives

- Examine the new 10-point scale and quality point conversion chart for GPAs
- Examine the effect of the 10-point scale on summer VirtualSC courses and beyond
- Review Transcript Template Changes
- Answer questions from Middle/High School Counselors on the implementation of the 10-point scale

Grade Conversion Chart

Current Uniform Grading Scale

| Numerical Average | Letter Grade | College Prep | Honors | AP/IB/ Dual Credit |
|-------------------|--------------|--------------|--------|-----------------------|
| 100 | A | 4.875 | 5.375 | 5.875 |
| 99 | A | 4.750 | 5.250 | 5.750 |
| 98 | A | 4.625 | 5.125 | 5.625 |
| 97 | A | 4.500 | 5.000 | 5.500 |
| 96 | A | 4.375 | 4.875 | 5.375 |
| 95 | A | 4.250 | 4.750 | 5.250 |
| 94 | A | 4.125 | 4.625 | 5.125 |
| 93 | A | 4.000 | 4.500 | 5.000 |
| 92 | B | 3.875 | 4.375 | 4.875 |
| 91 | B | 3.750 | 4.250 | 4.750 |
| 90 | B | 3.625 | 4.125 | 4.625 |
| 89 | B | 3.500 | 4.000 | 4.500 |
| 88 | B | 3.375 | 3.875 | 4.375 |
| 87 | B | 3.250 | 3.750 | 4.250 |
| 86 | B | 3.125 | 3.625 | 4.125 |
| 85 | B | 3.000 | 3.500 | 4.000 |

New 10 Point Conversion Chart

| Grade in Course | CP Weighting | Honors Weighting | AP/IB Weighting |
|-----------------|--------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 100 | 5 | 5.5 | 6 |
| 99 | 4.9 | 5.4 | 5.9 |
| 98 | 4.8 | 5.3 | 5.8 |
| 97 | 4.7 | 5.2 | 5.7 |
| 96 | 4.6 | 5.1 | 5.6 |
| 95 | 4.5 | 5 | 5.5 |
| 94 | 4.4 | 4.9 | 5.4 |
| 93 | 4.3 | 4.8 | 5.3 |
| 92 | 4.2 | 4.7 | 5.2 |
| 91 | 4.1 | 4.6 | 5.1 |
| 90 | 4 | 4.5 | 5 |
| 89 | 3.9 | 4.4 | 4.9 |
| 88 | 3.8 | 4.3 | 4.8 |
| 87 | 3.7 | 4.2 | 4.7 |
| 86 | 3.6 | 4.1 | 4.6 |
| 85 | 3.5 | 4 | 4.5 |
| 84 | 3.4 | 3.9 | 4.4 |
| 83 | 3.3 | 3.8 | 4.3 |
| 82 | 3.2 | 3.7 | 4.2 |
| 81 | 3.1 | 3.6 | 4.1 |
| 80 | 3 | 3.5 | 4 |

Phase in with 9th Grade Class

Discussion

- PowerSchool will not accommodate a phase in due to how it processes GPAs for transcripts
- Other modeled states did not phase in
- Student examples of why phasing in new scale could be problematic
- Scale will not be retroactive; it will impact grades going forward

PowerSchool Integration

How PowerSchool Determines GPA

1st

- Grades are entered in PowerSchool
- Grade Scale is determined by Course Section

2nd

- Grade Scale determines two values (weighted and unweighted quality points)
- Three values are permanently stored in PowerSchool (original grade and the two GPAs)

3rd

- Weighted and Unweighted GPAs are calculated “when requested” and transferred to transcript
- GPAs on transcripts are calculated when you make the request per what was stored

***Note:** *Transcripts will denote that in the 2016-17 school year, the grading scale changed to a 10 point grading scale*



Details of Implementing a 10 Point Scale

PowerSchool

1. Lock and store all grades at the end of the 15-16 school year under the 7 point scale.
2. Enter and store summer school grades on the 7 point grade scale
3. After August 15 or first day of school, convert to 10 pt scale
4. PowerSchool will store all grades and associated quality points going forward with the new grading scale.
5. At the conclusion of the 16-17 school year, PowerSchool will average the quality points stored on 7pt scale with the quality points on the 10 pt. scale to determine a GPA

Discussions with Institutions of Higher Education

- Who was involved?
- Commission on Higher Education
- SC Institutions of Higher Learning
- School Districts Across the State
- Other Stakeholders



Impact on Lottery Scholarship Program

Lottery Scholarships

- **HOPE Scholarship** – 3.0 GPA
 - \$2800 one time scholarship
- **LIFE** – 3.0 GPA; top 30% of class; 24 on ACT Composite Score or 1100 SAT
 - \$5000 scholarship annually if student maintains 3.0 GPA in college
- **Palmetto Fellows** – 3.5 GPA; top 6% of class; 27 on ACT Composite Score or 1200 on SAT
 - \$6700 or \$7500 if STEM major annually if student maintains 3.0 in college



Impact of Students Earning a 3.0 ("B" average)

- 2013 **40,999** students would score "B" or better approximately **13,000** more students
- 2014 **41,588** students would score "B" or better approximately **12,700** more students
- 2015 **42,874** students would score "B" or better approximately **12,000** more students

VirtualSC

Ms. Katina Montgomery



Grading Scale – Summer 2016

- Summer courses begin June 8, 2016.
- All Summer 2016 courses will fall under the 7-point grading scale regardless of student completion date, student grade level, or course end date.
- World Language courses that run from Summer 2016 (June) – Fall 2016 (Dec) will also fall under the 7 – point grading scale.



Grading Scale – Fall 2016 & Beyond

- VirtualSC will implement the 10-point grading scale for all courses beginning with the Fall 2016 session - September 7, 2016.
- Middle school students who take VirtualSC courses for high school credit beginning Fall 2016 will also have final grades applied under the 10-point grading scale.
- CR grades will continue to be applied to student transcripts based on local school district policy.



Transcript Template Changes

Mr. Wyatt Cothran

State of South Carolina Standard High School Transcript - FINAL

Graduation Date:
Class Of: 2016
Diploma Type: State of SC Diploma

| | | |
|--------------------|---------------|-------------|
| Student Name | | |
| Student ID | Grade 12 | Gender |
| State ID | Date of Birth | Ethnic Code |
| Parent or Guardian | | |

School Name/Address
Chapin High School
300 Columbia Avenue
Chapin, SC 29036
Tel: (803) 575-5400 Fax: (803) 575-5420

District Name/Address
Your District's Name
Your District's Address
Your District's City, State and Zip
Tel: (Box) xxx-xxxx Fax: (Box) xxx-xxxx

| Crs ID | Course Title | Term | Grd | Mark | Credit | Crs ID | Course Title | Term | Grd | Mark | Credit |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|------|-----|------|--------|--------|--------------|-------------------------------|-----|--------------------|--------|
| 10-11 Chapin Middle School | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4111HNHW | ALG 1 + H | YR | 7 | 97 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| 5100GLCH | Keyboarding | S1 | 7 | 97 | 0.50 | | | | | | |
| 11-12 Chapin Middle School | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3011HNHW | ENG 1 HN | YR | 8 | 93 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| 3651GLCW | SPAN I | YR | 8 | 99 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| 4121HNHW | GEOM HN | YR | 8 | 100 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| 12-13 Chapin High School | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3012ALHW | English 2 H ALA | YR | 9 | 98 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| 3211A1HH | PRECHEM HN ALA | S1 | 9 | 93 | 0.50 | | | | | | |
| 3211A2HH | PREPHYS HN ALA | S2 | 9 | 98 | 0.50 | | | | | | |
| 3221ALHW | BIO 1 HN ALA | YR | 9 | 92 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| 3379ALAW | HUM GEO AP ALA | YR | 9 | 92 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| 3441D0CW | PE 1 F&M D | YR | 9 | 100 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| 359901CH | DESIGN FOUND 1 | S1 | 9 | 98 | 0.50 | | | | | | |
| 359903CH | PHOTO 1 | S2 | 9 | 98 | 0.50 | | | | | | |
| 3652ALCW | SPAN 2 ALA | YR | 9 | 100 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| 4112ALHW | ALG 2 HN ALA | YR | 9 | 97 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| 13-14 Chapin High School | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3013ALHW | English 3 H ALA | YR | 10 | 86 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| 3273APAW | CHEM AP | YR | 10 | 94 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| 3273LBAW | CHEM AP LAB | YR | 10 | 94 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| 3377ALAW | WLD HIS AP ALA | YR | 10 | 96 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| 3399ALCW | LEADERSHIP ALA | YR | 10 | 99 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| 3653ALCW | SPANISH 3 ALA | YR | 10 | 100 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| 4131HNHW | PRECALC HN | YR | 10 | 97 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| 6051PLEW | INTRO ENG DES DC | YR | 10 | 97 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| 14-15 Chapin High School | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3071APAW | AP Lang and Comp | YR | 11 | 95 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| 3272APAW | BIO 2 AP | YR | 11 | 94 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| 3272LBAW | BIO 2 AP LAB | YR | 11 | 94 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| 3299LBCH | SCI LAB TECH | S2 | 11 | 100 | 0.50 | | | | | | |
| 3299S1HW | RESEARCH 1 HN | YR | 11 | 97 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| 332000HW | US HIST/CONS HN | YR | 11 | 97 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| 4170BCAW | CALC AB/BC AP | S1 | 11 | 96 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| 4172BCAW | CALC BC AP - S | S2 | 11 | 94 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | SC UGP GPA | | 4.0 GPA | |
| | | | | | | | | GPA Summary | | 4.937 | |
| | | | | | | | | Class Rank | | 9 of 279 | |
| | | | | | | | | Date Calculated | | September 11, 2015 | |
| | | | | | | | | Credit Summary | | | |
| | | | | | | | | Total Credit Attempted: 28.00 | | | |
| | | | | | | | | Total Credits Earned: 28.00 | | | |

To determine the course academic level refer to the seventh character in each course ID.

If graduation date is a future date, current year reflects Work in Progress.

Official Signature _____

Alma Test
Dr. Alma E. Ross, Sr., Principal

Date: September 11, 2015

An official signature and/or seal is required for manually printed transcripts (PDF format).
An official signature (.JPEG format) is required for electronic transcripts sent via secure transmission.

Information about the South Carolina Uniform Grading Policy can be found at:
<http://ed.sc.gov/agency/programs-sarvics/131/>

CHANGES TO THE SC TRANSCRIPT TEMPLATE

- **Right now, the only definite change is to add a snippet of text explaining the transition to a 10-point grade scale for the 2016-17 school year.**
- **We're hoping to send a couple of potential changes out to district advisory committees for comment early next month.**

Preparation for Changes to UGP



SCDE Implementation Plan

- Communication to district level leadership
- Collaboration with CHE and Institutions of Higher Learning
- Recommendations for Districts to communicate with local boards, parents, students, and community members
- Statewide faculty meeting for teachers (May 2, 2016) - *video archive available (Video link was sent out earlier)*



SCDE Implementation Plan

- South Carolina Department of Education training with constituency groups

Training Dates:

- Audience Specific Webinars and Regional Trainings from Respective Offices
- Instructional Leaders will receive information by June 1 about Camtasia videos available for teachers to access all summer
- Professional Development provided via Camtasia videos available to access all summer for PowerSchool Coordinators and Clerks
- SCASA i3 Summer Institute-June 19-22 for Secondary Principals
- Research to Practice-July 11-15 at River Bluff High School in Lexington One for Teachers
- Education Business Summit-June 26-29 in Greenville: CATE Teachers and Directors, Counselors and CDFs, Gen Ed and Sped Teachers, Administrators



School Counselor Considerations

- What is impacted by this change?
 1. National Honor Society
 2. Beta Club/Student Organizations
 3. Transfer Students
 4. IGP Conferences
 5. GPA and Class Ranking
 6. State and Local Scholarships
 7. Communication with stakeholders



Discussion and Questions



Questions From The Field

*Transfer Students:

1. What happens when a student transfers in?
2. Will PS recognize the historical data prior to 16/17 based on completion dates or will the school counselor/data personnel have to enter this information manually?

*PowerSchool:

1. When a grade correction needs to be made for previous years prior to 16-17, will PowerSchool recognize the proper quality points or will it require manual entry?

Questions from the Field

*Transcript Format:

1. Will the transcript show both the 7- and 10-point grading scales?
2. Will the SCDE provide a statement on the transcript about the change or will districts be responsible for adding a statement about the UGP change?

*SCDE Policy:

1. When will the grade conversion policy be released to school counselors from SCDE? Ex. (A=96, B= 88, etc.)
2. When will the course withdrawal policy be released to school counselors from the SCDE? (For example, WF, WP, FA 61, attendance)

Questions from the Field

*Middle School 8th graders taking high school credit courses:

1. When a middle school student takes a high school credited course, what scale will it calculate to if the middle school elects to stay on the 7-point scale?

*Scholarship Impact:

1. How will the change to the 10-point scale affect the state lottery scholarships? (Will there be an increase in the minimum GPA requirements?)

*NCAA and SC High School League:

1. How will the 10-point grading scale affect the core GPA for NCAA and SC High School League?