



DATE: August 2018

RE: State Testing Grade Enhancement Policy

Dear Student and Parent/Guardian,

The AzMERIT and AIMS Science assessments provide students, teachers, and parents with information about how a student is progressing academically in English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science. It is important that students perform their best on these assessments to accurately assess their academic progress. In order to motivate students to put forth strong effort, students will now be eligible to positively impact their semester grades in courses aligned to the high school AzMERIT and AIMS Science assessments. Passing the state assessments is no longer a requirement for graduation, so the grade enhancement policy will provide an incentive for students to do well on the tests, as well as in their course of study in preparation for the assessments.

Students who earn a **Proficient** score on an AzMERIT End of Course (EOC) assessment or a **Meets The Standard** on the High School AIMS Science test will be eligible to raise their final semester course grade by one letter grade up to a B for the course aligned with the assessment. The grades for both semesters of the course could be raised as long as both semesters of the course were taken in the same school year.

Students who earn a **Highly Proficient** score on an AzMERIT End of Course (EOC) assessment or an **Exceeds The Standard** on the High School AIMS Science test will be eligible to raise their final semester course grade by one letter grade up to an A for the course aligned with the assessment. The grades for both semesters of the course could be raised as long as both semesters of the course are taken in the same school year.

No course grades will be lowered due to poor performance on the high school state assessments.

Only courses taken at a Deer Valley Unified School District school or program are eligible. The DVUSD courses affected by the grade enhancement policy include:

- ELA 1-2, ELA 1-2 Honors
- ELA 3-4, ELA 3-4 Honors
- ELA 5-6, ELA 5-6 Honors
- AP English Language and Composition
- IB English 5-6 A1 HL
- ENH 110, ENH 111, ENG 101
- Algebra 1-2, Algebra 1-2 Honors
- Geometry 1-2, Geometry 1-2 Honors
- Algebra 3-4, Algebra 3-4 Honors
- Algebra Applications
- Biology 1-2, Biology 1-2 Honors

Please visit www.dvusd.org for additional information and updates.

Respectfully,

Dr. Gayle Galligan

DVUSD Deputy Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment