

January 12th, 2018

To the Parents of Paseo Hills Middle School Students:

The way that grades are communicated in the PowerSchool gradebook will change for quarters 3 and 4. It is important to note: The actual grading practice is not changing, but the reporting of information to PowerSchool is. Reporting of information via PowerSchool will initially be posted to demonstrate “0” for missing work, and marked with the “mi” indicator so that students may clearly understand the reality of how missing assignments impacts their overall GPA. In addition, when students don’t attempt an assignment they are missing essential exposure to the content.

Paseo Hills currently implements a “No Zero Policy” grading scale. This means that a missing assignment is given a score of a 49% as opposed to a 0%. In addition, students who have attempted an assignment cannot score below a 50% regardless of what percentage they earn on the assignment.

For the rest of the school year, the middle school team will input assignments based on the traditional 100 point scale. The chart below illustrates the differences between both grading scales:

Gradebook Example for Student		
<i>Assignment Column</i>	<i>Grade shown in Powerschool- No Zero Policy Scale</i>	<i>Grade Earned —Traditional Scale</i>
Test- Student scored a 30%	50%	30%
Assignment-Student does not turn in	49%	0%
Test #2 Student scored an 80%	80%	80%
<b>Cumulative Grade</b>	<b>60% D</b>	<b>37% F</b>

The reasons for this change to the reporting are as follows:

- The percentage reflects the number of standards mastered throughout the quarter, and communicates this to parents and students.
- Students will experience and understand how a traditional grading scale works. This is the grading scale most students will have as they progress through high school and college.

**It is important to note that all grades in PowerSchool will revert back to align with the “No Zero Policy” expectations prior to the quarter closing: March 9 and May 11.** Policy is not changing. The method of communication via PowerSchool grade posting is the only change.

Students will still have the option of attending after school tutoring if they need additional help, and also have the ability to relearn and retake any assessment in which they score poorly on. If you have any questions please feel free to contact grade level team of your student.

Thank you,  
The Paseo Hills Middle School Team