

PROCEDURE FOR ASSIGNMENT TO GRADE AND CLASSES

Grade placement and assignment of teachers/classes is the responsibility of the principal. It is based on achievement and mental, physical, emotional, and social maturity of the students in compliance with duly adopted policies and/or regulations of the Board of Education.

In general, students transferring into a school shall be placed in the same grade in which they were previously enrolled. The academic record, standardized test scores and recommendations from the former school shall be considered in determining placement.

Any student identified as or suspected of being a student with special needs shall be referred to the school-based committee for study and placement recommendation.

The Administrative Placement Committee shall make all final decisions regarding the placement of students with special needs.

The Board acknowledges that NCGS 115C-288 assigns to the principals the authority to "grade and classify pupils." The Board interprets "grade and classify students" to include: proper grade level placement, assignment to specific teachers/classes, and the final decisions on grades or marks per report card period, semester and/or year. The teacher shall normally award grading marks, but the principals retain ultimate authority to determine such grades/marks.

In the absence of arbitrary, capricious or discriminatory action by the principal, or an abuse of discretion or violation of any law, policy, or regulation, the principal's decision on the grading and the classifying of pupils is final.

Appeal of the principal's decision shall be via the normal grievance procedures established by the Board's policies.

The Superintendent is authorized to put into effect appropriate regulations to implement this policy.

QUALITY POINTS/PERCENTAGES AND DESCRIPTIONS OF COURSE LEVELS

Students in the high schools will have the opportunity to enroll in several different academic courses. Enrolling in the proper course should make it possible for students to work at their individual level of ability.

The following are the approved course levels and quality points for Pitt County Schools:

Standard - 4 Quality Points for an A

Courses at this level help prepare students to directly enter the world of work or post secondary training program following graduation.

Ordinarily, students who are successful at this level will score between the 23rd and 49th percentile on standardized tests.

Honors - 5 Quality Points for an A

Courses allow students to explore topics in more depth than in a regular college preparatory course. The emphasis in an honors course is on discovery and inquiry learning, the utilization of research skills, and higher level thinking skills as related to the specific course content.

Advanced Placement - 6 Quality Points for an A

Courses at this level are designed for accelerated students attempting to receive college credit via an advanced placement exam. Students should be self-motivated critical thinkers.

Students in Pitt County Schools are required to take the Advanced Placement Examination in order to receive AP credit on their high school transcript. AP Exam fees are jointly paid by the student and Pitt County Schools. Participating universities may grant university credit and appropriate college-level placement to students who satisfy university requirements relative to AP Exam scores.

Registration for Advanced Placement courses determines which courses are available in each high school on a yearly basis.

In addition to the Advanced Placement courses listed in the Registration Guide, the College Board offers Advanced Placement exams in the areas listed. If a student is interested in taking one of these courses, he/she should see the school counselor.

Computer Science A
 Computer Science AB
 Economics: Macro
 Economics: Micro
 German Language
 Music Theory

Physics C: Mechanics
 Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism
 World History
 Studio Art: Drawing
 Studio Art: 2D Design
 Studio Art: 3D Design

Registration in an Honors or Advanced Placement course is an academic commitment. It will be very difficult to drop an Honors or Advanced Placement class and to transfer to a

standard section of the same course. Because Honors and Advanced Placement require additional work, the decision to enroll in them should be made with care. Standard sections of courses are geared to meet college requirements.

All classes other than Honors and Advanced Placement will be considered by college admissions officials as Standard Course of Study.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES

If an A Equals 6 Quality Points:

	<u>GRADE</u>	<u>QUALITY POINTS</u>
A	93-100	6
B	85-92	5
C	77-84	4
D	70-76	3
F	Failure	0

HONORS LEVEL COURSES

If an A Equals 5 Quality Points:

	<u>GRADE</u>	<u>QUALITY POINTS</u>
A	93-100	5
B	85-92	4
C	77-84	3
D	70-76	2
F	Failure	0

STANDARD LEVEL COURSES

If an A Equals 4 Quality Points:

GRADE

A	93-100	4
B	85-92	3
C	77-84	2
D	70-76	1
F	Failure	0

CRITERIA FOR RECOMMENDATION FOR LEVEL FOR GRADES 9-12 ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. Performance
2. Present Level
3. Teacher Recommendation
4. Appropriate Standardized Achievement Scores

Overall, informed parent-student choice with opportunity for parents to approve or dispute registration forms is the philosophy under which the Pitt County Board of Education operates.

HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT FOR MIDDLE GRADES COURSE WORK

Effective with the 2012-2013 school year, the State Board of Education permits middle school students enrolled in high school second language, high school mathematics, high school science, or high school social studies courses to receive credit towards graduation.

Students may receive high school units of credit for second language and math courses taken at the middle school level if the course meets the high school Standard Course of Study and clock time requirements. Students must have received 150 hours of instructional time on a traditional schedule or 135 hours on a block schedule. In addition, all students are required to meet the following criteria:

- Students must pass the course with a final average grade of C or better.
- Students must score a level III or IV on the EOC exam for all EOC courses.

It is incumbent upon the student requesting credit to provide course documentation from his or her prior school to the high school. Please note that although the courses may count for credit toward graduation, the grades will not be computed in the student's high school GPA or class rank.

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Legal References: G.S. 115C-366

Cross References: None