



# Standards-Based Grading

## Overview

2016-17

# Objectives

**Review the purpose and the value of Standards-Based Grading**

**Review Standards-Based Grading policies**

# How does standards based grading differ from traditional grading?

SBG focuses more on formative data and looking towards students mastering the objective/standard versus focusing on summative data that focused on completion, neatness and compliance.

# Formative vs. Summative Assignments and Assessments

## Formative:

- Assignments and assessments (e.g. exit slips, quick-writes, quizzes) are used to track the process and progress of student learning, provide feedback to students, and to adjust instruction. Formative assessments are not included in student final course grades.

## Summative:

- Summative assessments reflect the most current level of mastery or learning. Student's overall grade is based on the average of all standards-based summative assessments. When multiple standards are included in a summative assessment, each standard should be entered into Pinnacle individually.

# Grading Practices: General

**Do not place any Zeros (0) in the gradebook.**

- Instead,
  - Input a “Z” as a placeholder for standards not yet assessed. Once assessed, replace the Z with the appropriate score or give these standards a “1.”
  - An “X” can be used to excuse a student from an assignment that will not be included in their GPA.
- Grade ratings are 4, 3, 2, 1
- All assignment must have a max value of 4 and weight of 1

# Grading Practices: Retakes

Retakes were identified by teachers as one of the biggest standards-based grading pain points for the following reasons:

- Many students take exams they have not studied for, turn in assignments they have not finished, or put in limited effort because they know they will have numerous opportunities for retake.
- Once Alliance students enter college, retake opportunities are rare to nonexistent. Therefore, allowing multiple retakes presents a barrier to students being truly college and career ready.

# Retakes: Updated Policy

## Moving forward- Starting Spring Semester 2017:

- Students will be allowed to continue to retake formative assessments and assignments to demonstrate their progress towards mastery of a standard or set of standards.
- Students will no longer retake unlimited summative assessments.
- Recommendation: 6th Grade students will be allowed a maximum of 2 retakes, 7th and 8th grade students a maximum of 1 retake. The grade from that summative assessment should then stand.

# Grade Replacement: Updated Policy

Moving forward, when summative retakes are permitted, the following guidelines should be followed with regard to grade replacement:

- Students will only be allowed to replace a summative grade with a similar—not identical—summative assessment. This assessment should be at a similar level of rigor to the original assessment. This will help ensure that the measure is based on standards mastery and not assessment familiarity or memorization.
- When a summative retake occurs, the most recent grade should be considered the final grade for that assessment or assignment (even if it is lower than the previous grade).
- The number of retakes available on summative assessments will be scaffolded as students progress through the grade levels-- 2 retakes for 6th grade and 1 retake for 7th/8th grade.