



Standards-Based Grading: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

What is standards-based grading?

Standards-based grading (SBG) is a system of instruction, assessment, and grading, determined by the level of understanding, knowledge, and skills students are expected to learn. SBG better reflects student learning, provides parents with better feedback as to what students know and do not know, allows teachers to offer more targeted support for students, and creates consistency across subjects and grade levels.

Why is Armada Area Schools implementing SBG?

Armada Area Schools has piloted SBG at different levels over the past eight years. Our data and research have supported our move to SBG. SBG will allow us to continue to build consistency in K-12 across grades and subjects.

How are students graded?

Students are evaluated on their levels of proficiency for each required course standard. Proficiency levels are determined by using a rubric containing a scale ranging from 0-4. Final course letter grades are calculated using the following scale:

Grade	Low	High
A	3.4	4
A-	3.2	3.39
B+	3.0	3.19
B	2.8	2.99
B-	2.6	2.79
C+	2.4	2.59
C	2.2	2.39
C-	2.0	2.19
F	0	1.99

Why does the scale not contain D's?

SBG is a shift towards proficiency and growth. Under the previous grading scale, D's represented a level of achievement that did not demonstrate proficiency. Last year, less than 2% of students district-wide earned a D.

