

Why do we use Standards-Based Grading?

Here are some of the reasons that East Union has moved to a Standards Based Grading (SBG) system:

- Standards-based grading creates more objective and focused feedback for student work.
- Students are assessed on their mastery of the content, which is ultimately reported as a function of their best work, not as a biased average of their learning over time.
- Standards-based grading puts less pressure on students during assessments, so it gives them the freedom to focus on their learning instead of obsessing over the effect of a test score on their final grade.
- Standards-based grading reduces the focus on scoring individual assignments, which creates more opportunities to promote reading and writing in the content areas.

Involving Stakeholders

The Elementary teachers and principal involved parents and community members in their discussions regarding 1) moving to this assessment system and 2) feedback from the draft forms that were developed. Information was consistently shared with the East Union Board of Education and the School Improvement Advisory Committee.

Information regarding Elementary and Secondary changes in grading practices has been shared and discussed with members of the School Improvement Advisory Committee. Also, more detailed communication has been shared with all parents and community members through the monthly district newsletter.

Ongoing Process

This is an ongoing process, as we continue to refine and improve our reporting system and ensure it aligns to the essential concepts and skills of the Common Core.