

Physical Science Proficiency Grading *for Mr. Burch & Mr. Youngberg's Classes*

Our Personal Philosophy: Most researchers and measurement specialists recommend using product criteria exclusively as a way to assess students. Product criteria are teachers who base their grade on final examinations scores, overall assessments, or other culminating demonstrations of learning (Guskey 1996).

Evaluation of student learning will be done with the following guidelines:

1. In this classroom, students are graded upon their progress toward meeting state standards in the area of science, specifically physical, earth & space, inquiry and engineering.
2. Daily work, most labs, and homework will not be part of student's final grade, but will be collected, scored and handed back to students. These are an essential component for students learning and the material covered will be seen on each final exam. All this work will be recorded by the teacher, and if a student needs to retest, ***they will not be allowed until all the practice work has been completed.***
3. All final exams at the end of each unit will be graded on the 1-5 point scale. See chart below.
4. In order for students to receive a passing grade, a student must receive at least a 4 on **each and every state** standard tested at end of each unit.
5. New information showing additional learning about any given standard will replace old information. Grades will reflect the most recent learning. For example, if a student had previously scored a 2 on a standard, and later demonstrates an improvement in the standard to a 4, only the 4 will appear in the gradebook .

Passing	5	Advanced/Exceeds	The evidence exceeds the expectations for sufficiency and proficiency-thorough and of exceptional quality
	4	Proficient	The evidence meets the expectations for sufficiency and proficiency – complete and demonstrates competence
Not Passing	3	Developing/Nearly Proficient	The evidence meets the expectations of sufficiency, but not proficiency – needs revision and/or editing.
	2	Emerging/Progressing	The evidence does not meet the expectations for sufficiency or proficiency – needs revision and more work shown
	1	Beginning/Incomplete	The evidence is still in the development stage – not enough work to assess for sufficiency or proficiency.

6. Students have 3 assessment opportunities to meet the standards. If the student is unable to meet proficiency on any standard after 3 tries, they can demonstrate proficiency by an individualized project agreed upon by student and teacher.
7. If a student has any incompletes on any standards, they will not pass the class. The student will receive an “I” (incomplete) for the semester. They will then have 2 weeks to meet that standard; if they do not, the grade will be changed to an “F”.

<i>Progress Report and Final Letter Grade</i>	<i>Criteria for calculating grade</i>
A	Student receives a 4 on 1/3 rd of standards AND 5 on 2/3 rd of standards. Semester 2: Exceeds 8 of 12 standards, meets all others.
B	Student receives a 4 on 2/3 rd of standards AND 5 on 1/3 rd of standards. Semester 2: Exceeds 4 of 12 standards, meets all others.
C	Student receives at least a 4 on every standard for the semester.
F	Student does NOT meet at least a 4 on EVERY standard

8. Students and Parents/Guardians can following student’s progress online through ESIS by seeing if students did not meet (less than a 4), met (a 4), or exceeded the standard (a 5) expressed by a new column.

Reference:

Guskey, Thomas R. (1994) “Making the Grade: What Benefits Students?”
Educational Leadership, Volume 52, No. 2, p. 4. (October 1994).