

PRHS FAMILY GRADING GUIDE

What is a proficiency-based diploma?

To earn a Poland Regional High School diploma, a student must demonstrate proficiency in the **Graduation Standards** established by RSU 16. **Standards** are descriptions of what students are expected to know and be able to do at a specific stage of their education. PRHS defines **proficiency** as achieving a score of 2.5 or higher on the standards. In addition, to get a diploma at PRHS a student must meet any other graduation requirements set forth by the RSU 16 school board. These include earning 24 credits by meeting the standards in a range of courses as outlined in the Course of Studies. **In practice, this means that for a student to earn credit for a course, a student must meet every standard in the course.**

What does it mean to “meet the standards” in a class?

Students are given several assessments to meet every standard in every class. Assessment grades are averaged to come up with the overall standard grade. (Teachers may choose to weight assessments differently.) A standard grade of 2.5 or higher is considered passing. Students do not have to pass every assessment to meet a standard, and homework is not counted toward the standard grade. Homework will be documented in the Habits of Work (HOW) standard. HOW grades will be used, in part, to determine eligibility for co-curricular activities. Each assessment will be assigned a grade according to the scale below.

Proficient	4	Exceeds the standard
	3.5	Exceeds the standard
	3	Meets the standard
	2.5	Meets the Standard
Not Proficient	2	Partially Meets the Standard
	1	Does not meet the standard

What does it take to pass a course and earn credit?

A student passes a course and earns credit by meeting each and every standard of that course with a 2.5 or higher. For the purpose of earning credit, HOW is not calculated in the course grade.

How is an overall course grade calculated?

Standard grades are averaged to determine the overall course grade. Our online grade book, **JumpRope**, calculates a “weighted average,” giving more weight to standards with more assessments. The rubric below describes the levels of achievement for course grades.

3.7 - 4.0	Student consistently exceeds the standards of the course. This means that student’s work includes complexity, sophistication, originality, depth, synthesis and/or application that clearly exceeds what would be expected to meet the standards in a range of assessments.
3.2 - 3.6	Student has differing levels of success on course standards, but clearly demonstrates an inclination toward “high honors level” work on several standards in a range of assessments.
2.5 - 3.1	Student meets all the standards of the course. This means that student’s work shows fundamental knowledge and skills.
1.0 - 2.4	No credit: Student fails to meet one or more standards of the course.

Example Course and Standard Grades from JumpRope

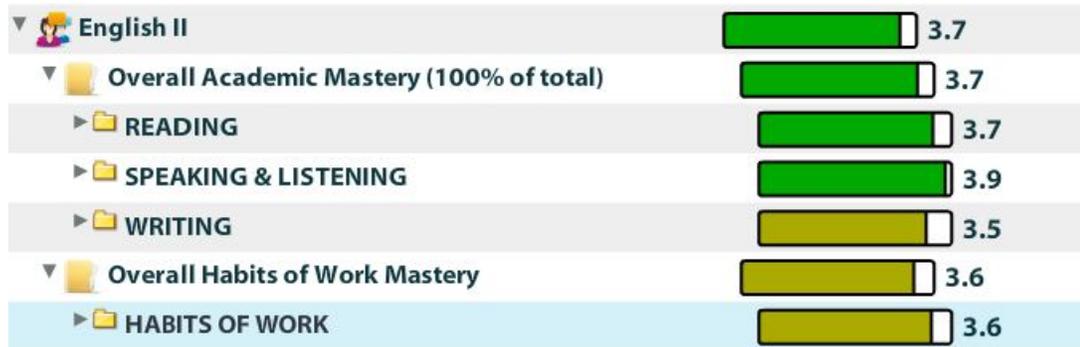
NOT MEETING ALL STANDARDS = NOT PASSING COURSE

This example grade report shows the *course standards* for Comparative Government and Economics and the student's *course standard grades*. The student is meeting two standards and is not meeting one — he has lower than 2.5 in them. Because he is not meeting all of the standards, he is currently not passing the course.



MEETING ALL STANDARDS = PASSING COURSE

This example grade report shows the course standards and course standard grades for another student in the same class. Because he is meeting all of the standards, he is passing the course.



If you have questions about grading and reporting, feel free to contact your child's teacher(s) or an administrator.

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