**Grading Practices**

**2014-2015**

**Wakefield High School**

**Homework, Classwork, & Assessments**

* ***If a student received a failing grade for Quarter 1 (or Quarter 3) and then passes Quarter 2 (or Quarter 4), the grade for Q1 (or Q3) will be raised to a grade no lower than a 60.***
* In order to support the WCPSS Board Policy #5510 and #55101.1 pertaining to homework, Wakefield High School’s homework plan can be found on the school website and in the handbook.
* PLTs will develop guidelines through ongoing discussions for group projects and partner work which consider the use of rubrics, assigning of groups, and meaningful learning goals of the assignment.
* When work is assigned over break, teachers will give students time to complete the assignment either prior to or following the break. Students will be notified of the assignment in advance so that students may choose to structure their time accordingly.
* Students who score below a 77 on a test may retest or complete test corrections according to PLT guidelines for a maximum score of 77 within one week or two SMART lunches after the score has been provided to the student.
* ***No grade can be attached to any task, including extra credit work, unless it*** ***supplies evidence of achievement of a learning target.*** (i.e. Bringing in an extra copy of a novel for extra points; donations; community service; bringing back interims or report cards signed; bathroom passes…all of these are items that ***cannot*** have a grade attached to them in any fashion.)

**Honor Code:**

The students of Wakefield High School are committed to being honest and responsible in the completion of academic materials and interactions with the school administration and community. Cheating, stealing, plagiarism (passing off another's work, words, or ideas as one's own), and lying (including willful distortion or misrepresentation) are considered violations of the Honor Code. Through a joint fulfillment of this code, students and faculty will achieve their fullest potential in academic excellence and character.

Cheating falls under the School Board’s policy addressing integrity. It is defined as: the giving or receiving of unauthorized class work or homework, copying work and turning it in as one’s own, or using unauthorized aids on tests and quizzes. Major cheating is cheating on a major assessment such as a mid-term test or project. Minor cheating is cheating on homework, in-class work, and the like. Teachers have discretion in determining the level of cheating as it relates to the assignment or assessment. Academic consequences are determined by the PLT; discipline is assigned by administration.

**Late Work:**

Late Work due to an excused absence will follow the WCPSS make up work policy: Assignments assigned prior to an absence will be due upon return; this includes tests scheduled for the day of the return.

If the make-up work has not been assigned in advance, for absences of 1 to 3 days, the student will have a minimum of 1 day for each absence to complete missed assignments. For absences exceeding 3 days, the student will have a minimum of 2 days for each absence to complete assignments. Students will receive full credit for all make-up work following an excused absence as long as the work is completed within the time limit according to teacher expectations. Special consideration should be given in the case of extended absences due to injury or chronic illness.

**PLTs will adhere to the following:**

* Have consistent grading considerations
* Ensure category weights are consistent throughout the PLT
* Record a similar number of grades
* Mid-Terms are optional at Wakefield High School. PLTs will determine administering whether or not to administer a Mid-Term as a PLT
* Follow all Wakefield High School, WCPSS, and State testing polices

**PLTs will consider:**

* Having ongoing continual discussions designed around meaningful group work implementation
* Creating imaginative lesson plans that inspire students to be creative while developing 21st Century learning skills
* Sharing best practices and lessons regarding the use of technology in the classroom
* Providing students opportunities to show what they have learned through varied methodologies