

New Caney ISD
Elementary Grading Guidelines
2009 -2010

Grades should represent student performance on TEKS (Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills) objectives in each subject area at the student's grade level.

There are a **minimum number of grades** required to accurately reflect student achievement during a grading period for subjects and grade levels.

For 1st - 5th Grade** there should be a minimum of **2 grades** per week in each of the following subjects: reading, math, and language arts and a ***minimum of **1 grade** a week in each of the following subjects: science and social studies.

Accelerated Reader scores/points **MAY** count for **no more** than **20 percent** of the grading period average in reading.

Accelerated Math scores/points **MAY** count for **no more** than **20 percent** of the grading period average in math.

Homework Policy

- Homework is work assigned to be completed at home.
- No new concepts should be included in homework assignments.
- Homework is an effective tool in developing responsibility, study habits, and skills. It is an extension of the learning process and involves the home in the child's curriculum. It should be purposeful, related to classroom experiences, and be age and grade appropriate. The purpose and directions for the assignment needs to be clearly communicated and should be preceded by instruction that adequately prepares the child to do the task independently and successfully.
- Homework is not to be assigned on weekends or before holidays with the exception of previously scheduled special reports and/or projects.

- Homework may be assigned daily not to exceed:

PK/Kindergarten	15 minutes
1 st grade	20 minutes
2 nd grade	20 minutes
3 rd grade	30 minutes
4 th grade	40 minutes
5 th grade	40 minutes

Homework in regard to grades:

- An assignment done for homework can be used for grade in the gradebook.
- PK/Kindergarten - no grade given
- 1st & 2nd Grades - Homework Comment space on report card (E, S, N, or U)
- 3rd, 4th, & 5th Grades

Each student begins the grading period with an all-inclusive homework return grade (noted on the report card) of 100. Five points will be deducted for each homework assignment that is not turned in. This grade is for returning the completed homework assignment, not for the actual grade received on the assignment.

Reading at Home:

- **For grades PK/K – 2** each student is expected to read or be read to 10 – 15 minutes in addition to assigned homework. The **total homework should not exceed 30 minutes a night**. If two or more teachers are working with a student, the homework should be coordinated to meet the one thirty minute time.
- **For grades 3 – 5** each student is expected to read at least 20 minutes in addition to assigned homework. The **total homework should not exceed one hour a night**. If two or more teachers are working with a student, the homework should be coordinated to meet the one-hour time.

Benchmark testing should be used for diagnostic purposes only by the campus or district in order to determine student progress and needs. Most benchmarks cover multiple objectives and are comprehensive in nature. No grades should be recorded in the grade book for benchmark testing. (An example of Benchmark Testing would be End-of-Year District Tests.)

Check Point Testing/Assessments should be used to determine student mastery of targeted objectives taught during a specific instructional period. This would usually occur at the end of the unit. These grades should be recorded in the grade book. (An example of a Check Point Test would be Unit Test, Chapter Test, or Six-Weeks Tests.)

Core subjects are ELAR (English Reading & Language Arts), Math, Science, and Social Studies.

All non-core subjects should be graded as E, S, N, or U including computer, art, PE, music, and conduct (which will be given by the homeroom teacher).

In grades K – 1st E, S, N, & U should be used for science and social studies six-weeks grades as these subjects are usually taught using cooperative groups and classroom participation.

Grading Scale

Academics

- **90 – 100** indicates outstanding achievement or “A” work
- **80 – 89** indicates good achievement or “B” work
- **75 – 79** indicates average achievement or “C” work
- **70 – 74** indicates poor achievement or “D” work

- “**E**” indicates outstanding achievement or **E**xcellent work
- “**S**” indicates good achievement or **S**atisfactory work
- “**N**” indicates below average achievement or **N**eeds improvement on work
- “**U**” indicates poor achievement, **U**nsatisfactory, or failing work

For Pre-K and Kindergarten

- 1 = Experiencing Difficulty
- 2 = Developing with Help
- 3 = Progressing
- 4 = Mastered

Conduct

- “**E**” indicates the student has an exceptional attitude, is cooperative, and promotes school rules and regulations.
- “**S**” indicates the student has a fine attitude, is cooperative, and generally conforms to school rules and regulations.
- “**N**” indicates the student is uncooperative, and his/her attitude is poor. He/she disrupts class and shows little respect for school rules and regulations.
- “**U**” indicates the student will not take steps for correcting unacceptable behavior. He/she disrupts class and shows no respect for school rules and regulations.

Student Performance will be reported to the parent/guardian at the end of each grading period. A report will also be sent to parents/guardians of student’s who are in danger of failing at the mid-point during the grading period.

Cheating by a student will result in a zero for the assignment or test. The student will also be referred to the office for disciplinary action. (As per District Policy)

Honor Roll

In order to be eligible for A/B honor roll a student must have a score of 80 or above in all the core subjects (Reading, Language, Math, Science/Health and Social Studies) and at least one core subject grade of 90 or above. In order to be eligible for the A honor roll a student must have a score of 90 or above in all core subjects. Please contact the campus administration for additional campus criteria.

Grading Percentages/Weights

A grade may not count more than 2 times for any one assignment. In the event there is only one category test grades should be doubled. Please refer to the chart that follows for the categories and weights.

	1 st Grade	2 nd Grade	3 rd Grade	4 th Grade	5 th Grade
Reading	Daily 100%	Daily 100%	Daily 100%	Daily 60%	Daily 60%
				Tests 40 %	Tests 40%
Math	Daily 100%	Daily 100%	Daily 100%	Daily 60%	Daily 60%
				Tests 40 %	Tests 40%
Language	Listening/ Speaking 20%	Listening/ Speaking 10%	Listening/ Speaking 5%	Listening/ Speaking 5%	Listening/ Speaking 5%
	Spelling 30%	Spelling 30%	Spelling 30%	Spelling 25%	Spelling 25%
	Grammar 30%	Grammar 35%	Grammar 40%	Grammar 40%	Grammar 40%
	Written Composition 20%	Written Composition 25%	Written Composition 25%	Written Composition 30%	Written Composition 30%
Science / Health	Daily 100%	Daily 100%	Daily 100%	Daily 60%	Daily 60%
				Tests 40 %	Tests 40%
Social Studies	Daily 100%	Daily 100%	Daily 100%	Daily 60%	Daily 60%
				Tests 40 %	Tests 40%