

August 10, 2017

ARGS School Divisions Currently Using a 10 Point Grading Scale

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|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Amelia County | Yes |
| 2. Charles City County | Yes |
| 3. Chesterfield County | Yes |
| 4. Colonial Heights | Yes for the 2018-2019 school year. |
| 5. Dinwiddie County | Yes |
| 6. Franklin City | Yes |
| 7. Hopewell City | Yes |
| 8. Petersburg City | Yes |
| 9. Powhatan County | Yes |
| 10. Prince George | Yes for the 2017-2018 school year. |
| 11. Richmond City | Yes |
| 12. Southampton County | No |
| 13. Surry County | Yes |
| 14. Sussex County | Yes |

Academic Year Governor's Schools (AYGS) Currently Using a 10 Point Grading Scale

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| 1. Appomattox | No |
| 2. Mountain Vista | Yes |
| 3. Linwood Holton | Yes |
| 4. Massanutten | Yes |
| 5. Chesapeake Bay | Yes |
| 6. Central Virginia | Yes |
| 7. Blue Ridge Virtual | Yes |
| 8. The Commonwealth | Yes |
| 9. School for the Arts | Yes |
| 10. Roanoke Valley | Yes |
| 11. Piedmont | Yes |
| 12. New Horizons | Yes |
| 13. Southside Virginia | Yes |
| 14. Southwest Virginia | Yes |
| 15. Maggie L. Walker | Yes |
| 16. Thomas Jefferson | Yes |

Incomplete List of Reasons for the Recommended Change

1. Virtually all ARGS participating school divisions use a 10-point grading scale
2. Virtually all AYGS use a 10-point grading scale.
3. May remove any perceived grading disadvantage that students have when compared to other students on a 10-point grading scale. (MLWGS)
4. May remove any perceived grading disadvantage that students have when applying for college admission, scholarship opportunities, honors programs, special housing, and even discounted insurance rates. (MLWGS)
5. Aligns with the grading scale used by many colleges and universities.
6. States such as North Carolina and South Carolina have mandated that all public high schools switch to 10-point grading scale.
7. May also benefit struggling students. (MLWGS)

ARGS Current 7 Point Grading Scale & Quality Points

Grade	Range	Regular	Weighted (CC & AP)
A+	97-100	A+ = 4.5	A+ = 5.0
A	93-96	A = 4.0	A= 4.5
B+	88-92	B+= 3.5	B+ = 4.0
B	85-87	B= 3.0	B= 3.5
C+	81-84	C+ 2.5	C+ = 3.0
C	77-80	C= 2.0	C= 2.5
D+	73-76	D+ = 1.5	D+= 2.0
D	70-72	D= 1.0	D= 1.5
F	69- below	F= 0	F= 0

ARGS Recommended 10 Point Grading Scale & Quality Points

Grade	Range	Regular	Weighted (CC & AP)
A+	97-100	A+ = 4.5	A+ = 5.0
A	90-96	A = 4.0	A= 4.5
B+	86-89	B+= 3.5	B+ = 4.0
B	80-85	B= 3.0	B= 3.5

C+	76-79	C+ 2.5	C+ = 3.0
C	70-75	C= 2.0	C= 2.5
D+	66-69	D+ = 1.5	D+= 2.0
D	60-65	D= 1.0	D= 1.5
F	Below 60	F= 0	F= 0

Some Reasons Why Past Grades Should Not be Retroactively Moved to the 10 Point Grading Scale

1. Historical grades and quality points would change without additional effort from students.
2. Grades earned on the 7-point grading scale would be discounted.
3. Grades of students who failed courses may change to passing grades without taking into account the teacher's reason (s) for assigning that failing grade.
4. The administration may become the signer of records authorizing the changing of grades.
5. In speaking with a tech support agent from PowerSchool, every historical grade and quality point would have to be exported from PowerSchool, manually changed, and then imported back into PowerSchool.

We discussed this possibility with PowerSchool, and according to them we currently have the capacity to seamlessly transition to a 10-point grading scale. However, we cannot retroactively move past grades to the 10-point grading scale without exporting every past grade and quality point from PowerSchool, manually changing those grades and quality points, and importing those changes back into PowerSchool.

Effective immediately, the above 10-point grading scale is recommended for approval. However, no recommendation is being made to move past grades retroactively to the 10-point grading scale. I am also recommending that a statement be placed on students' transcripts identifying when ARGS transitioned to a 10-point grading scale.