

## **Standards Based Grading Parent FAQ**

### **What scores are considered passing?**

With standards based grading, you no longer think in terms of passing or failing a subject. A score of a 3 or 3D means your child met or exceeded the learning target and can independently do the grade level work. A score lower than a 3 means your child has not **yet** met the learning target. Keep in mind, many skills take practice to be able to demonstrate independent, grade level mastery.

### **Why does Brighten use standards based grading?**

As a member school of EL Education, we believe that standards based grading clarifies expectations for students, families, and teachers. Standards based grading also separates academic outcomes from habits of scholarship/work habits which provides a better understanding of what the student knows and is able to do. Standards based grading also helps students better pinpoint their strengths and weaknesses which helps them to become leaders of their own learning.

### **What are the Habits of Scholarship?**

Habits of Scholarship are performance character skills that are needed to obtain a standard of excellence in school and life (commitment, craftsmanship, collaboration). These habits of scholarship are intentionally taught and assessed for all students. Habits of Scholarship goals are viewed as just as important as reading, math, science and social studies goals.

### **Can my child receive extra credit?**

No. Students are required to demonstrate understanding by completing the prescribed activities. Students are required to redo any assignment with a score of a 2.5 or lower to be regraded. We believe that redoing work until it is correct is essential to academic success.

### **Is a 3 an A, a 2.5 a B, etc?**

No. A score of 3 means they met the goal. A score below a 3 means the student has not yet met the goal.

### **What if my child is not mastering the standards?**

We have multiple structures in place to help make sure all students “make it up the mountain” of achievement. Students are required to redo work and are provided multiple opportunities to demonstrate understanding. We also offer several intervention programs to meet the needs of our students. Be sure to schedule a conference with your child’s teacher if you feel your child needs additional help.

### **What does my child need to do to earn a 3D?**

A 3D means that your child has exceeded the learning target and is doing work that is above grade level without explicit teaching. Tests, projects, and writing assessments will provide opportunities for students to demonstrate understanding at a 3D level.

### **Can a student perform at a level 3 one grading period then move to a level 1 the next?**

Yes. The expectations and learning targets change from one grading period to the next as students move toward the end of grade-level expectations. This means: a student may be progressing toward grade-level expectations during the first marking period, but as expectations increase, the student may not demonstrate the same level of understanding during the next marking period.