

VMS Grading Guidelines

The Venus Independent School District is committed to creating an environment where quality instruction, assessment and evaluation will occur to communicate and improve student learning. All learning is designed to accurately assess students' mastery of the Texas Essential Knowledge (TEKS)

Assignment and Calculation of Grades

The assigning of a grade in a particular course should reflect a student's mastery of the skills and content of the course.

Six Week grades shall be assigned according to the following:

1. 100% of a grade shall be based on formative assessments and assignments, as well as summative exams or other summative assessments. Summative exams or other summative assessments may include, but are not limited to, tests, projects, long-term assignments, presentations, papers and or reports. Formative assessments and assignments may include, but are not limited to, class discussion, daily practice, checkups, periodic quizzes, and homework, classwork, and/or teacher observations. These grades should be a balanced representation of the type of work completed during the course of the grading period.
2. Grades shall be based on mastery of the curriculum. Grades shall not be awarded for any non-academic activities such as a compliance grade for returning signed papers.

Promotion, Retention

Mastery of at least 70% shall be required in all core classes. Students receiving a grade below 70% may be retained in their current grade level. The grade placement committee will review all retentions.

Assessment, Reassessment, and Late Work

Students who receive a failing grade and wish to redo an assignment or retake a test:

1. May not redo an assignment that originally received a zero. The student must have demonstrated a reasonable attempt to complete the assignment; in other words students who did not turn in or complete an assignment by its original due date may not be allowed to redo the assignment. Submission of late work does not qualify to be re-done.
2. Must attend an approve tutorial or received remediation, and completed an alternate assignment/test within 5 days of receiving feedback from the teacher on the original assignment.
3. The policy does not apply to semester exams.

Grade Posting, Progress Reports, and Parent Communication

Grade Posting: Parents and students may view grades in Skyward Family Access. Upon request, printed copies of grades shall be provided. Teachers are required to keep grades up to date and post assignments within 5 days of the day the assignment is due. Teachers are required to send weekly emails updated classroom activities along with electronic progress reports.

After the three-week progress report period, if a students' average falls below passing or drops significantly, the teacher will initiate parent communication.

Minimum Number of Grades

For every week of instruction, a minimum of two separate grades shall be assigned, for a total of at least 12 grades per 6 weeks. Grades will be based on mastery of the curriculum.

Make-up Work

All students shall be allowed to make up work assigned during absences. For every day absent, students will have one day to complete missed assignments. Under extenuating circumstances, such as long-term illness or family emergencies, teachers may give students more time to make-up assignment. Students who did not turn in or complete an assignment by its original due date may not be allowed to redo the assignment. Submission of late work does not qualify to be redone.

Grading for Students with Disabilities

All grades will be based upon work completed with appropriate accommodations provided by the 504 or ARD committees.