STANDARDS BASED GRADING AND HONOR CORDS

Norridge School District 80

October 2025

TRADITIONAL GRADING

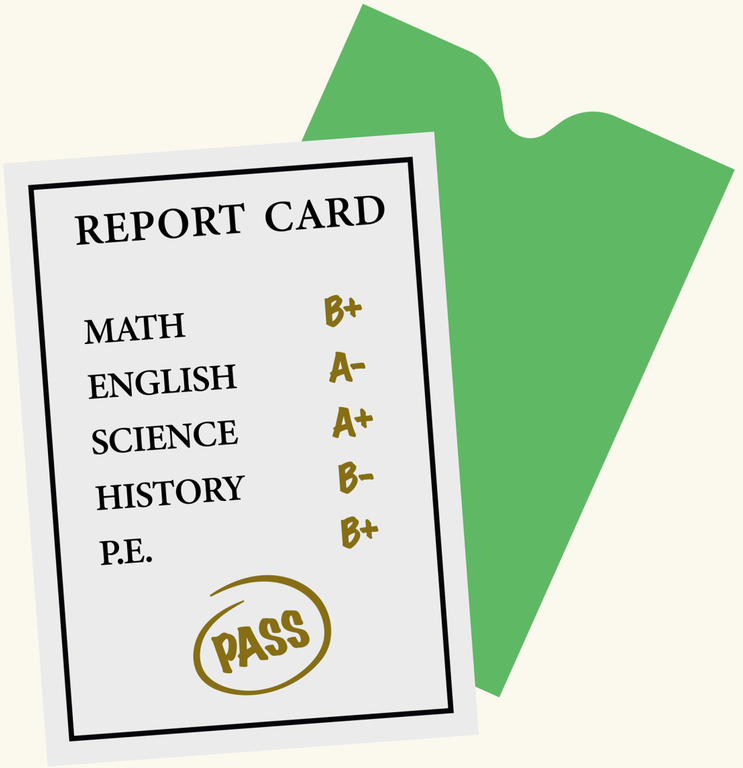
Letter grades are calculated by averaging performance on assignments, tests, effort, homework, and/or expectations.

Student receives one letter grade for each subject.

Letter grades do not inform students or families which skills have been mastered or whether they are working at grade level.

TRADITIONAL GRADING

GPA Scale	% Grade	Letter Grade
4.0	97-100%	A+
4.0	93-96%	A
3.7	90-92%	A-
3.3	87-89%	B+
3.0	83-86%	B
2.7	80-82%	B-
2.3	77-79%	C+
2.0	73-76%	C
1.7	70-72%	C-
1.3	67-69%	D+
1.0	65-66%	D
0.0	Bellow 65%	F



STANDARDS BASED GRADING

Grading system that focusing on student learning of the Illinois State Standards.

Focus on learning targets and growth.

Progress of learning is based on the most recent evidence of learning, not average of all activities

STANDARDS BASED GRADING

It gives grades meaning and provides specific feedback.

It helps teachers adjust instruction to individuals.

Students focus on learning.

Aligns curriculum.

Better defines achievement.

STANDARDS BASED GRADING

M	Mastery - student consistently demonstrates complete understanding and application of the standard
D	Developing - student shows partial understanding and is approaching mastery
B	Beginning - student demonstrates limited understanding and requires additional support to meet the standard

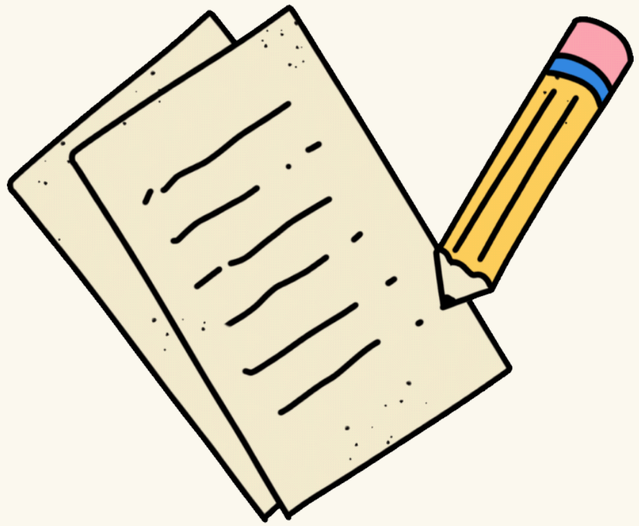
STANDARDS BASED VS TRADITIONAL

S

I can define a number sentence	**M**
I can solve number sentences that have brackets	**D**
I can create number pattern using two rules	**D**
I can estimate the answers of number sentences	**D**
I can find the sum of two-digit numbers	**M**
I can find the difference of two-digi numbers	**B**

T

Math 86% = B



STANDARDS PERCENTS

M

90% - 100%

D

60% - 89%

B

Below - 59%

REPORTING PROGRESS

Conferences

Leigh School
November 19th and 20th
Parent and Teacher Conferences
Review evidence of learning

Giles School
November 11th and 13th
Student Led Conferences
Students report on their strengths and areas of focus

Reporting

Trimester ends November 21st

Progress Reports are sent electronically sent home on December 5th

Progress reports in students' home language send home on paper December 5th

PRIORITY STANDARDS

Essential learning targets within a curriculum that are deemed most critical for student success.

These standards focus on the knowledge and skills that students must master to progress in a subject, succeed in subsequent grades, and apply learning in real-world contexts.

Focusing on priority standards provides clear expectations for students, and supports consistent, meaningful measurement of learning outcomes across classrooms.

UNPACK STANDARDS

Process of breaking down learning standards into specific, clear, and measurable learning goals.

Identifying the key concepts, skills, and understandings students must master, as well as the evidence needed to show proficiency.

By unpacking standards, teachers gain a deeper understanding of what the standard truly requires and can design instruction, assessments, and learning activities that directly align with those expectations.

This process ensures consistency across classrooms, supports differentiated instruction, and helps students clearly see what they are expected to learn and how they can demonstrate their progress toward mastery.

PROFICIENCY SCALES

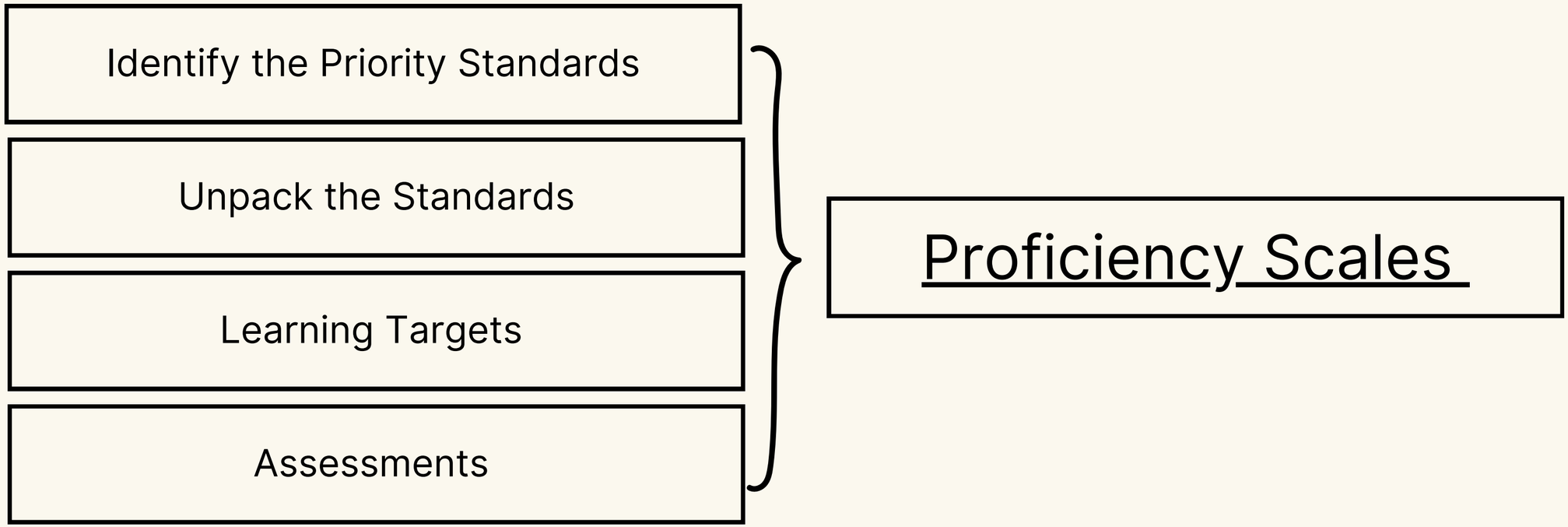
Proficiency scales are tools that clearly outline what students need to know and be able to do at different levels of learning for each standard.

Progression of skills—from beginning to developing to mastery—so students, teachers, and parents can understand where a student currently stands and what the next steps are for growth.

By breaking standards into manageable, clearly defined levels, proficiency scales make expectations transparent and help guide instruction, feedback, and assessment.

STANDARDS INSTRUCTION ALIGNMENT

Illinois State Standards



FUTURE POSSIBLE CHANGES FOR NSD 80

A	Above Proficient - student consistently demonstrates a deep, understanding of the standard and can apply the skill .
P	Proficient - student consistently demonstrates complete understanding and application of the standard
D	Developing - student shows partial understanding and is approaching proficient
B	Beginning - student demonstrates limited understanding and requires additional support to meet the standard

HONOR CORDS FY 26

Gold Cord
Awarded for Mastery in all Academic achievement - including SEL

Red Cord
Awarded for membership in the Spanish Honors Society

Green Cord
Awarded for successfully completing duel enrollment with NSD 80 and RHS 234

STANDARDS PERCENTS

M

90% - 100%

D

60% - 89%

B

Below - 59%

HONOR CORDS

- Reviewed data
- If we allowed honors cords for “a little bit of yellow” it may have a significant affect on the number of students who qualify for the academic cord.
- We do not recommend changing the level for receiving the academic cord

STANDARDS BASED GRADING AND HONOR CORDS

Norridge School District 80

October 2025