

School District of Monroe

925 16th Avenue, Suite 3
Monroe, WI 53566



August 29, 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome back! I hope you had a great summer. I am excited to share that for the upcoming 2024-25 school year, we will be implementing evidence-based grading with 35 staff members in grades 6-12. Your child will be taking at least one course using this grading system.

What is Evidence-Based Grading?

Evidence-based grading focuses on what students know and can do, similar to how elementary school teachers report learning. It provides a more fair and accurate representation of your child's abilities and growth while promoting student independence and ownership of their learning.

How Are Grades Determined?

Letter grades will still be assigned and will be determined by your child's proficiency level on each of the essential skills for the course. Below are the proficiency scale descriptors. The district proficiency scale is designed to provide clear feedback to students and families on the level of proficiency a student has demonstrated on a particular skill.

4	3	2	1	M	R
Exceeding	Proficient	Developing	Beginning	Missing	Refusal
Learning evidence indicates the student has a skill proficiency level that exceeds the standard.	Learning evidence indicates the student has a skill proficiency level that meets the standard.	Learning evidence indicates the student's proficiency is developing, though not there yet.	Learning evidence indicates the student is developing foundational knowledge and pre-req skills.	The student is missing evidence, and there is time remaining to submit it.	Student has refused to submit evidence after multiple requests from the teacher.

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Which MMS courses will be using evidenced-based grading during the 2024-2025 school year?

Algebra 8
Math 8--Teasdale
Science 7--All teachers
Social Studies 8--All teachers
Band 6/7/8
Choir 6
Concert Choir 7/8

General Music 6
Piano/Guitar/Ukulele 7/8
Tech Ed 6/7
Automation and Robotics 8
Design and Modeling 8
Agriculture 7/8

Middle School Grade Conversion Chart

Courses have a minimum of 3 skills areas that all assessments will be organized under. Skill scores will be used in determining the grade following the table below.

Count of Skill Scores	Letter Grade	GPA
3s + 4s	A	4.0
3s + 4s and one 2	B	3.0
Two 2s (no score of 1)	C	2.0
One 1	D	1.0
Two 1s	F	0.0

How Will I Be Informed About My Child's Grade?

To monitor your child's performance and grades throughout the trimester, families will use a new gradebook system called OTUS. OTUS will allow you to see your child's scores on each piece of evidence and the essential skills for the course. Skill scores will be updated starting at week 4. Overall grades will be updated and can be viewed at weeks 6, 10, and 12. **Look for more information in early September on how to access OTUS to monitor your child's progress.**

Families will continue to use Skyward to monitor their child's learning for classes in a traditional gradebook. The overall grades for all courses can be viewed in Skyward at the end of the trimester.

Attached to this letter is a "[frequently asked questions](#)" document to provide additional clarity. For more information, feel free to reach out to me, building principals, or your child's classroom teacher.

Sincerely,



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