

POLICY

HASBROUCK HEIGHTS BOARD OF EDUCATION

TEACHING STAFF MEMBERS

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Electronic Communications Between Teaching Staff

Members and Students

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3283 ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN TEACHING STAFF MEMBERS AND STUDENTS

The Board of Education recognizes electronic communications and the use of social media outlets create new options for extending and enhancing the educational program of the school district. Electronic communications and the use of social media can help students and teaching staff members communicate regarding: questions during non-school hours regarding homework or other assignments; scheduling issues for school-related co-curricular and interscholastic athletic activities; school work to be completed during a student's extended absence; distance learning opportunities; and other professional communications that can enhance teaching and learning opportunities between teaching staff members and students. However, the Board of Education recognizes teaching staff members can be vulnerable in electronic communications with students.

In accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:36-40, the Board of Education adopts this Policy to provide guidance and direction to teaching staff members to prevent improper electronic communications between teaching staff members and students.

The Commissioner of Education and arbitrators, appointed by the Commissioner, have determined inappropriate conduct may determine a teaching staff member unfit to discharge the duties and functions of their position. Improper electronic communications by teaching staff members may be determined to be inappropriate conduct.

For the purposes of this Policy, "electronic communication" means a communication transmitted by means of an electronic device including, but not limited to, a telephone, cellular telephone, computer, computer network, personal data assistant, or pager. "Electronic communications" include, but are not limited to, e-mails, text messages, instant messages, and communications made by means of an Internet website, including social media and social networking websites.

For the purposes of this Policy, "professional responsibility" means a teaching staff member's responsibilities regarding co-curricular, athletic coaching, and any other instructional or non-instructional responsibilities assigned to the teaching staff member by the administration or Board of Education.

For the purposes of this Policy, "improper electronic communications" means an electronic communication between a teaching staff member and any student of the school district when:

1. The content of the communication is inappropriate as defined in this Policy; and/or



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2. The manner in which the electronic communication is made is not in accordance with acceptable protocols for electronic communications between a teaching staff member and a student as defined in this Policy.

Inappropriate content of an electronic communication between a teaching staff member and a student includes, but is not limited to:

- I. Communications of a sexual nature, sexually oriented humor or language, sexual advances, or content with a sexual overline;
2. Communications involving the use, encouraging the use, or promoting or advocating the use of alcohol or tobacco, the illegal use of prescription drugs or controlled dangerous substances, illegal gambling, or other illegal activities;
3. Communications regarding the teaching staff member's or student's past or current romantic relationships;
4. Communications which include the use of profanities, obscene language, lewd comments, or pornography;
5. Communications that are harassing, intimidating, or bullying;
6. Communications requesting or trying to establish a personal relationship with a student beyond the teaching staff member's professional responsibilities;
7. Communications related to personal or confidential information regarding another school staff member or student; and
8. Communications between the teaching staff member and a student that the Commissioner of Education or an arbitrator would determine to be inappropriate in determining the teaching staff member is unfit to discharge the duties and functions of their position.

The following acceptable protocols for all electronic communications between a teaching staff member and a student shall be followed:

- I. E-Mail Electronic Communications Between a Teaching Staff Member and a Student



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Electronic Communications Between Teaching Staff Members and Students

- a. All e-mails between a teaching staff member and a student must be sent or received through the school district's e-mail system. The content of all e-mails between a teaching staff member and a student shall be limited to the staff member's professional responsibilities regarding the student.
 - b. A teaching staff member shall not provide their personal e-mail address to any student. If a student sends an e-mail to a teaching staff member's personal e-mail address, the staff member shall respond to the e-mail through the school district e-mail system and inform the student his/her personal e-mail address shall not be used for any electronic communication between the teaching staff member and the student.
 - c. A teaching staff member's school district e-mail account is subject to review by authorized school district officials. Therefore, a teaching staff member shall have no expectation of privacy on the school district's e-mail system.
2. Cellular Telephone Electronic Communications Between a Teaching Staff Member and a Student
 - a. Communications between a teaching staff member and a student via a personal cellular telephone shall be prohibited.
 - (I) However, a teaching staff member may, with prior approval of the Principal or designee, communicate with a student using their personal cellular telephone if the need to communicate is directly related to the teaching staff member's professional responsibilities for a specific purpose such as a field trip, athletic event, co-curricular activity, etc. Any such approval for cellular telephone communications shall not extend beyond the specific field trip, athletic event, co-curricular activity, etc. approved by the Principal or designee.
3. Text Messaging Electronic Communications Between Teaching Staff Members and Students
 - a. Text messaging communications between a teaching staff member and an individual student are prohibited.



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Electronic Communications Between Teaching Staff Members and Students

- (1) However, a teaching staff member may, with prior approval of the Principal or designee, text message students provided the need to text message is directly related to the teaching staff member's professional responsibilities with a class or co-curricular activity. Any such text message must be sent to every student in the class or every member of the co-curricular activity. Any such approval for text messaging shall not extend beyond the class or activity approved by the Principal or designee.
4. Social Networking Websites and other Internet-Based Social Media Electronic Communications Between Teaching Staff Members and a Student
 - a. A teaching staff member is prohibited from communicating with any student through the teaching staff member's personal social networking website or other Internet-based website. Communications on personal websites are not acceptable between a teaching staff member and a student.
 - b. A teaching staff member shall not accept "friend" requests from any student on their personal social networking website or other Internet-based social media website. Any communication sent by a student to a teaching staff member's personal social networking website or other Internet-based social media website shall not be responded to by the teaching staff member and shall be reported to the Principal or designee by the teaching staff member.
 - c. If a teaching staff member has a student(s) as a "friend" on their personal social networking website or other Internet-based social media website they must permanently remove them from their list of contacts upon Board adoption of this Policy.
 - d. Communication between a teaching staff member and a student through social networking websites or other Internet-based social media websites is only permitted provided the website has been approved by the Principal or designee and all communications or publications using such websites are available to: every student in the class; every member of the co-curricular activity and their parents; and the Principal or designee.



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Electronic Communications Between Teaching Staff
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Reporting Responsibilities

In the event a student sends an improper electronic communication, as defined in this Policy, to a teaching staff member, the teaching staff member shall report the improper communication to the Principal or designee by the next school day. The Principal or designee will take appropriate action to have the student discontinue such improper electronic communications. Improper electronic communications by a teaching staff member or a student may result in appropriate disciplinary action.

A teaching staff member and student may be exempt from the provisions outlined in this Policy if a teaching staff member and student are relatives. The teaching staff member and the student's parent shall submit notification to the Principal of the student's school of their family relationship and their exemption from the provisions outlined in this Policy.]

The provisions of this Policy shall be applicable at all times while the teaching staff member is employed in the school district and at all times the student is enrolled in the school district, including holiday and summer breaks.

A copy of this Policy will be made available on an annual basis, to all parents, students, and school employees either electronically or in school handbooks.

N.J.S.A. 18A:36-40

Approved (First Reading): September 25, 2014



POLICY

HASBROUCK HEIGHTS BOARD OF EDUCATION

SUPPORT STAFF MEMBERS

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Electronic Communications Between Support Staff
Members and Students
M

4283 ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN SUPPORT STAFF MEMBERS AND STUDENTS

In accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:36-40, the Board of Education adopts this Policy to provide guidance and direction to support staff members to prevent improper electronic communications between support staff members and students. The Board of Education recognizes support staff members can be vulnerable in electronic communications with students.

The Board prohibits all electronic communications between a support staff member and a student. However, based on a support staff member's professional responsibilities electronic communications between a support staff member and a student may be permitted with written approval of the Superintendent or designee. The approval is only for the school year in which the approval is granted. If the Superintendent or designee approves electronic communications between a support staff member and a student, the support staff member shall be required to comply with all the provisions of this Policy.

The Commissioner of Education has determined inappropriate conduct may determine a school staff member unfit to discharge the duties and functions of their position. Improper electronic communications by school staff members may be determined to be inappropriate conduct.

For the purposes of this Policy, "electronic communication" means a communication transmitted by means of an electronic device including, but not limited to, a telephone, cellular telephone, computer, computer network, personal data assistant, or pager. "Electronic communications" include, but are not limited to, e-mails, text messages, instant messages, and communications made by means of an Internet website, including social media and social networking websites.

For the purposes of this Policy, "professional responsibility" means a support staff member's responsibilities assigned to the support staff member by the administration or Board of Education.

For the purposes of this Policy, "improper electronic communications" means an electronic communication between a support staff member and any student of the school district when:

- I. The content of the communication is inappropriate as defined in this Policy; and/or
2. The manner in which the electronic communication is made is not in accordance with acceptable protocols for electronic communications between a support staff member and a student as defined in this Policy.



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Electronic Communications Between Support Staff Members and Students

Inappropriate content of an electronic communication between a support staff member, who has been approved by the Superintendent or designee to have electronic communications, and a student includes, but is not limited to:

- I. Communications of a sexual nature, sexually oriented humor or language, sexual advances, or content with a sexual overtone;
2. Communications involving the use, encouraging the use, or promoting or advocating the use of alcohol or tobacco, the illegal use of prescription drugs or controlled dangerous substances, illegal gambling, or other illegal activities;
3. Communications regarding the support staff member's or student's past or current romantic relationships;
4. Communications which include the use of profanities, obscene language, lewd comments, or pornography;
5. Communications that are harassing, intimidating, or bullying;
6. Communications requesting or trying to establish a personal relationship with a student beyond the support staff member's professional responsibilities;
7. Communications related to personal or confidential information regarding another school staff member or student; and
8. Communications between the support staff member and a student that the Commissioner of Education would determine to be inappropriate in determining the support staff member is unfit to discharge the duties and functions of their position.

The following acceptable protocols for all electronic communications between a support staff member, who has been approved by the Superintendent or designee to have electronic communications, and a student shall be followed:

- I. E-Mail Electronic Communications Between a Support Staff Member and a Student
 - a. All e-mails between a support staff member and a student must be sent or received through the school district's e-mail system. The content of all e-mails between a support staff member and a student shall be limited to the staff member's professional responsibilities regarding the student.



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Electronic Communications Between Support Staff Members and Students

- b. A support staff member shall not provide their personal e-mail address to any student. If a student sends an e-mail to a support staff member's personal e-mail address, the staff member shall respond to the e-mail through the school district e-mail system and inform the student his/her personal e-mail address shall not be used for any electronic communication between the support staff member and the student.
 - c. A support staff member's school district e-mail account is subject to review by authorized school district officials. Therefore, a support staff member shall have no expectation of privacy on the school district's e-mail system.
2. Cellular Telephone Electronic Communications Between a Support Staff Member and a Student
 - a. Communications between a support staff member and a student via a personal cellular telephone shall be prohibited.
 - (1) However, a support staff member may, with prior approval of the Principal or designee, communicate with a student using their personal cellular telephone if the need to communicate is directly related to the support staff member's professional responsibilities for a specific purpose such as a field trip, athletic event, co-curricular activity, etc. Any such approval for cellular telephone communications shall not extend beyond the specific field trip, athletic event, co-curricular activity, etc. approved by the Principal or designee.
3. Text Messaging Electronic Communications Between Support Staff Members and Students
 - a. Text messaging communications between a support staff member and an individual student are prohibited.
 - (1) However, a support staff member may, with prior approval of the Principal or designee, text message students provided the need to text message is directly related to the support staff member's professional responsibilities regarding the student. Any such text message must be sent to every student in the class or every member of the co-curricular activity. Any such approval for text messaging shall not extend beyond the activity approved by the Principal or designee.



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SUPPORT STAFF MEMBERS

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Electronic Communications Between Support Staff Members and Students

4. Social Networking Websites and other Internet-Based Social Media Electronic Communications Between Support Staff Members and a Student
 - a. A support staff member is prohibited from communicating with any student through the support staff member's personal social networking website or other Internet-based website. Communications on personal websites are not acceptable between a support staff member and a student.
 - b. A support staff member shall not accept "friend" requests from any student on their personal social networking website or other Internet-based social media website. Any communication sent by a student to a support staff member's personal social networking website or other Internet-based social media website shall not be responded to by the support staff member and shall be reported to the Principal or designee by the support staff member.
 - c. If a support staff member has a student(s) as a "friend" on their personal social networking website or other Internet-based social media website they must permanently remove them from their list of contacts upon Board adoption of this Policy.
 - d. Communication between a support staff member and a student through social networking websites or other Internet-based social media websites is only permitted provided the website has been approved by the Principal or designee and all communications or publications using such websites are available to: every student in the class; every member of the co-curricular activity and their parents; and the Principal or designee.

Reporting Responsibilities

1. In the event a student sends an electronic communication to a support staff member who has not been approved by the Superintendent or designee to have electronic communications, the support staff member shall report the communication to the Principal or designee. The Principal or designee will take appropriate action to have the student discontinue such electronic communications. Electronic communications by a support staff member or a student where such communications are not approved by the Superintendent or designee may result in appropriate disciplinary action.



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Electronic Communications Between Support Staff Members and Students

2. In the event a student sends an improper electronic communication, as defined in this Policy, to a support staff member who has been approved by the Superintendent or designee to receive electronic communications, the support staff member shall report the improper electronic communication to the Principal or designee. The Principal or designee will take appropriate action to have the student discontinue such improper electronic communications. Improper electronic communications by a support staff member or a student may result in appropriate disciplinary action.

A support staff member and student may be exempt from the provisions outlined in this Policy if a support staff member and student are relatives. The support staff member and the student's parent shall submit notification to the Principal of the student's school of their family relationship and their exemption from the provisions outlined in this Policy.

The provisions of this Policy shall be applicable at all times while the support staff member is employed in the school district and at all times the student is enrolled in the school district, including holiday and summer breaks.

A copy of this Policy will be made available on an annual basis, to all parents, students, and school employees either electronically or in school handbooks.

N.J.S.A. 18A:36-40

Approved (First Reading): September 25, 2014



Approve the following CST members for evaluations and case management during the summer at the following rates (note rate change for July 1st)

ONS

* *
APPROVE NEW RES

	Jun-14	July/Au 2014	Hrs not to exceed	New hours	Total \$ amount
L. Ciraco	\$73.37	\$83.04	50	33	\$2,740.32
N. Fried	\$56.74	\$59.03	38	42	\$2,479.26
D. Johnson	\$81.48	\$82.31	50	67	\$5,514.77
S. Gallo	\$82.73	\$83.56	50	65	\$5,431.40
K. Kellher	\$48.94	\$50.57	50	28	\$1,415.96
M. Philp	\$53.51	\$55.14	38	37	\$2,040.18
L. Pizute	\$82.73	\$83.56	50	59.5	\$4,971.82

\$24,593.71

HASBROUCK HEIGHTS BOARD OF EDUCATION
 Hasbrouck Heights, New Jersey 07604 File Code: 6147.2
 Policy/Regulation

Items to be eliminated

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Elementary School K-5:

Grading Policy

The Hasbrouck Heights Board of Education believes that the Elementary School report card should reflect the degree to which a student has mastered the content of the core curricula. As such, it is essential that each individual's grades are calculated and allocated independently of any other student. It is the responsibility of the classroom teacher to utilize multiple assessments to determine a student's degree of mastery regarding the content outlined in the Common Core and New Jersey Core Curricula Content Standards which is the curricula adopted by Hasbrouck Heights School District. Ultimately, the purpose of the Elementary School report card grade is to inform students and parents of the students' attained level of proficiency and mastery of core curricula content.

General Elements of Grading

A student's grade in any course should reflect that student's skill proficiency and essential understanding of core content curricula at all grade levels. A balanced and regular schedule of formative and summative assessments is necessary to determine each student's skill proficiency and essential understanding of core content curricula standards. Rubrics for projects and some assignments will be provided by teachers in advance so students and/or parents/guardians understand the criteria by which students will be graded (eg., the level of skill proficiency and/or essential understandings required to obtain an "A" or "B" or "C" or the deficiency of skills/essential understandings that constitutes a "D" or "F"). Note that attitude, cooperation, and compliance with classroom rules affect a student's proficiency and essential understandings.

Kindergarten: Grading System

Numerical grades will not be assigned to a student's performance on the report card. Rather, a marking system (detailed below) will be used to rate a student's mastery of (but not limited to) specific academic skills, work habits, and social development. This system is devised to report on a student's attainment of a plethora of skills. It is highly recommended that parents utilize these skills based report cards to assist children at home.

** Kindergarten Marking System: Distributed two times per year*

- 1- Independent-Meets expectations, able to work independently
- 2- Progressing-Making good decisions
- 3- Developing-Developing confidence and requiring some support
- 4- Needs Strengthening-Has difficulty completing tasks
- X- Does not apply at this time

First through Fifth Grade: Grading System

In the core subject areas a report card grade will reflect a student's skill proficiency and essential understanding of core content curricula standards (Common Core and New Jersey Core Curricula Content Standards) as outlined below.

Specific Elements of Grading

Grades for each marking period are to be determined on the basis of attainment (progress), preparation and participation. The following weights are to be given to each of the specific elements of grading.

80% Attainment: Formative and Summative assessment and/or assignments* include written and oral quizzes, tests, lab write-ups, essays, reports, projects, etc. Assignments that span more than one marking period shall be graded during the process with the final grade being recorded/considered only in the marking period when due.

- Regular assessments are necessary to determine if each student has achieved the instructional objective established by the teacher during lesson planning for each instructional period of the day. Teachers should use at minimum of 6 graded assessments per marking period to gauge student progress in skill proficiency and/or essential understanding of core curricula content standards.
- In conjunction with the principal, teachers at all grade levels will collaborate to create common formative and summative assessments that will determine if students have attained skill proficiency and essential content understanding as dictated by core curricula content standards. The types of formative and summative assessments must vary at each grade level and according to content areas. For example, teachers in K-3 may

use non-written formative and summative assessments to determine student skill levels. Also, teachers of electives may create project-based formative and summative assignments (with rubrics) to assess student progress.

- A quiz is a formative assessment given in class that measures knowledge and skills pertaining to core curricula content standards and are meant to assist the student in attaining skill proficiency and core content understanding. Assignments completed outside of the classroom cannot be counted as a quiz. A test is a summative assessment that determines in a final and formal manner each student's skill proficiency and essential understanding of core content curricula.
- A balanced and regular schedule of formative and summative assessments including projects, labs, quizzes, tests, reports is required to determine skill proficiency and essential content understanding of core curricula content standards. Teachers should strive to achieve a balance among the types of formative assessments (quizzes, projects, assignments, blogs, drafts, etc.) and summative assessments (tests, reports, performances, culminating activities, portfolio assignments) that best determine students' skill proficiency and essential understanding of content information.
- Teachers at each grade level will work cooperatively to stagger the due dates of formative and summative assessments and assignments including due dates for special projects, reports, and tests.
- No one assessment can count for more than 25% of the assessment portion of the grade.

* First through Fifth Grade Marking System for all subjects: *Distributed four times per year*

A	-	100-94	C+	-	77-79
A-	-	90-93	C	-	74-76
B+	-	87-89	C-	-	70-73
B	-	84-86	D	-	65-69
B-	-	80-83	F	-	55-64
					For first three marking periods < 65
					For marking period 4

Progress reports will be available through GENESIS at the midpoint of each marking period for grades 1-5.
 10% Participation: includes factors such as displaying a positive interest in the classroom \ presentation, displayed by active and inquisitive contributions contributing to establishing an academic or working atmosphere in the classrooms, lab, shop paying attention to the contributions of others....
 10% Preparation: includes all homework, bringing all necessary materials to class, being ready to participate in class discussions, and exhibiting a knowledge of previously covered work.
 Homework will be graded on the following percentage system.

- 100 percent for completion or good effort;
- 75 percent for partial or average effort;
- 50 percent for an attempt, but not enough of the assignment is good to show that the student made a sincere effort for completions;
- 0 for no homework or nearly no homework;

For any subject in which no daily homework is traditionally assigned, class participation will be given a weight of 20%. There will be one grade for participation per course per marking period. All students will start out with 100% and teachers will deduct points accordingly. Teachers will place comments in GENESIS to inform parents why the grade was lowered. ~~Once per marking period, a teacher may grade a homework as a quiz grade in Genesis.~~

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Middle School And High School:

Specific Elements of Grading

Grades for each marking period are to be determined on the basis of attainment (progress), preparation and participation. The following weights are to be given to each of the specific elements of grading.

80% Attainment: Formative and Summative assessment and/or assignments* include written and/or oral quizzes, tests, lab write-ups, reports, projects, papers, etc. Assignments that span more than one marking period shall be graded during the process with the final grade being recorded/considered only in the marking period when due.

- Regular assessments are necessary to determine if each student has achieved the instructional objective established by the teacher during lesson planning for each instructional period of the day. Teachers should use at minimum of 6 assessments per marking period. Common Assessment will be utilized in all subject areas.
- No one assessment can count for more than 25% of the assessment portion of the grade.

Procedures

- At the mid-point in each marking period, students should have completed a number of formative assessments and summative assessments which will be accurately recorded in GENESIS to reflect each student's skill proficiency and essential understanding of core content curricula standards at that point in the marking period.

- If a student is absent for a summative or formative assessment, the test/quiz should not be "made-up" during the following class period/instructional time. Before/after school is when make-up quizzes or tests should. Students will have up to three school days (or longer as per the teacher and/or principal) to complete missed work or assessments.

10% Participation: includes factors such as displaying a positive interest in the classroom \ presentation, displayed by active

and inquisitive contributions contributing to establishing an academic or working atmosphere in the classrooms, lab, shop paying attention to the contributions of others....

10% Preparation: includes all homework, bringing all necessary materials to class, being ready to participate in class discussions, and exhibiting a knowledge of previously covered work.

Homework will be graded on the following percentage system.

- 100 percent for completion or good effort;
- 75 percent for partial or average effort;
- 50 percent for an attempt, but not enough of the assignment is good to show that the student made a sincere effort for completions;
- 0 for no homework or nearly no homework;

For any subject in which no daily homework is traditionally assigned, class participation will be given a weight of 20%. There will be one grade for participation per course per marking period. All students will start out with 100% and teachers will deduct points accordingly. Teachers will place comments in GENESIS to inform parents why the grade was lowered. ~~Once per marking period, a teacher may grade a homework as a quiz grade in Genesis.~~

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Numerical Grades:

When calculating numerical grades, only a decimal remainder equal to or greater than .5 will be rounded up. Below is the grading scale used for converting numerical grades to letter grades.

GRADING SCALE

A+ 97 - 100	B+ 87 - 89	C+ 77 - 79	D 65 - 69
A 93 - 96	B 83 - 86	C 73 - 76	F 55-64 For first three marking periods < 64 For marking period 4

Pass/Fail Grading:

Not Applicable. The superintendent in conjunction with the building principal may grant "pass/fail grading" under extenuating circumstances on a case-by-case basis.

Incomplete Grades:

Must be resolved within two weeks of the end of Marking Period. The principal may grant an "incomplete grade" under extenuating circumstances on a case-by-case basis.

Honor Roll : Criteria

The purpose of these criteria is to further motivate students to work to their academic potential and further reward students for their efforts in earning grades of excellence.

High School

Criteria - The criteria for the three levels of honor roles is as follows:

First Honors: All A's (defined as A+, A, A-)

Second Honors: At least 3 A's (defined as A+, A, A-) and no grade below a B (numeric 83 or higher)

Third Honors: At least 3 B's (numeric 83 or higher and no grade below a B- (numeric 80 or higher)

Middle School

Criteria - The criteria for the two levels of honor roles is as follows:

1. High Honor Roll: A+, A or A- in every subject

2. Honor Roll: At least three (3) A+'s, A's or A-'s and all grades B- or better

Determination of Class Rank 9-12

Rank in class is based upon a student's grade point average (G.P.A.), which is determined by multiplying the quality point equivalent for each grade received by the number of credits for that course. The sum of the quality points divided by the sum of the credits for all courses taken yields the G.P.A. Grading scales are used adding extra weights for courses that are pre-advanced placement or honors, or college level, dual-enrollment, or advanced placement courses, as these courses are more rigorous and academically challenging. See below.

- Only a student who has enrolled in Hasbrouck Heights High School PRIOR TO OR ON November 1 of that student's grade 9 year will be eligible for consideration as valedictorian, salutatorian, and third honors.
- Effective with the 2013-2014 School Year and thereafter, the three students with the highest GPAs will be designated Valedictorian, Salutatorian, and Third Honors, only after the seventh semester and after the release of seventh semester GPA and percentile rank.
- Effective in School Year 2013-2014 and thereafter, no number ranking (1, 2, 3, 4, etc.) will be provided to students and/or their parents/guardians, or staff members.
- Effective in School Year 2013-2014 and thereafter, rank will only be provided to students and their parents/guardians after the seventh semester at Hasbrouck Heights High School, and rank will only be provided in percentages: 10%, 20%, 30%, etc to those students and their parents/guardians within those percentages.
- If a college/university requests a number rank, the guidance counselor will provide that number rank to the admissions office only.
- Under no circumstances will a number rank will be provided to any parent/guardian or student who requests that information, either from principal or administrator or guidance counselor.
- In determining a transfer student's class rank (a transfer student is defined as a student who enters Hasbrouck Heights High School after November 1 of that student's grade 9 year), only courses defined by the New Jersey Department of Education (NJ DoE) course codes from the student's previous school(s) will be considered for GPA and thus for percentile rank. Transfer students are not eligible for valedictorian, salutatorian, or third honors.
- Effective with School Year 2013-2014 and thereafter, students are encouraged to take enrichment or advanced summer or online classes, but these classes will not be counted in the GPA of those students and thus will not be counted to the percentile rank. These summer and online courses will be placed on a student's transcript only if the summer or online courses are approved by the NJ DoE.
- Effective with School Year 2013-2014, credit recovery and/or online credit recovery courses will be used for GPA and thus percentile rank only when the credit recovery summer or online course is mandated by the superintendent, principal, or his/her designee and is approved by the NJ DoE.

Withdrawing From Courses

1. Students experiencing academic difficulty or seeking placement/level change must make an appointment to discuss the issue with their teacher. Parental permission would be required to make that change as well as approval by the supervisor/ administrator.
2. If a course is dropped prior to a first quarter grade, the course will not be reflected on the transcript. After that time, a grade of "W or W/Fail" will be given for that course.
3. If a student is a senior, the quality points and credits for any course dropped after the close of marking period 1 grades will be included in the student's GPA and credit for the course up to the time of withdrawing will be included on the student's transcript. For example: a 5 credit course dropped at the end of marking period 2 will be shown on the student's transcript as 2.5 credits calculated in the GPA using the quality points earned based on

the student's grade. Additionally, colleges to which the senior has applied will be notified of the change in program by the guidance counselor.

4. If a student is a senior and is requesting a change in course from a higher to lower level course, if the change is recommended by the teacher and counselor, then the student will credit for the lower level course.
5. Students in grades 9, 10, and 11 who meet the criteria for the test taking skills courses are required to remain in the course for the entire school year. The grade and credits from test taking skills courses are included in GPA calculations.
6. No student may enter and be granted credit for a full year course after the start of the 2nd marking period. Exception could be necessitated for transfer students or with administrative approval.
7. No student may enter and be granted credit for a semester course after the 1st or 3rd quarter progress reports have been distributed.
8. All students must take at least 7 courses (or the equivalent if semester courses are involved). Seniors may take fewer than 7 with parental permission. Athletic eligibility must be considered before dropping a course.

SCHEDULING AND PROGRAM CHANGES

1. Students register for classes in the Spring using a course selection sheet. These forms are signed off by the student and parent/guardian indicating agreement with the schedule. If a student does not return the form, the schedule will be developed by the counselor.
2. No changes in requests will be considered after June 15 except for a change in the course offerings. After the second full week of school in September, students who want to drop an elective will only be to permitted do so only upon parents signed approval; noting that the option may be a study hall with a loss of credits.
3. Prior to, and during the first week of school, scheduling errors are resolved. Schedule changes that will be made are for basic skills placement, adjustments for failures, and summer school results.
4. Change of teacher will not be honored.

WEIGHTED GRADING SCALE (Per Credit)

Standard Academic	Honors/Pre-AP Academic	College Level/Dual Enrollment or Advanced Placement
4.6	5.0	5.3
4.3	4.7	5.0
4.0	4.4	4.7
3.6	4.0	4.3
3.3	3.7	4.0
3.0	3.4	3.7
2.6	3.0	3.3
2.3	2.7	3.0
2.0	2.4	2.7
1.3	1.7	2.0
0.0	0.0	0.0

QUALITY POINTS FOR A FIVE CREDIT COURSE

A+	23.0	25.0	26.5
A	21.5	23.5	25.0
A-	20.0	22.0	23.5
B+	18.0	20.0	21.5
B	16.5	18.5	20.0
B-	15.0	17.0	18.5
C+	13.0	15.0	16.5
C	11.5	13.5	15.0
C-	10.0	12.0	13.5
D	6.5	8.5	10.0
F	0.0	0.0	0.0

Quarterlies - Grades 6-12

Common Quarterly assessments are required to be taken by students in grades 6-12 each marking period..

Students who are absent from school on the day of a quarterly is administered must provide the principal with a verifiable and valid excuse. If the absence is not considered to be valid by the principal the student will not be permitted to make up the exam and will fail the course for the year.

Examination Exemptions for Grade 12 Students

Exemptions for final examinations will be granted for grade 12 students who, in each course:

Attain a grade of 90 or higher in each of the four marking periods.

Attain a grade of 90 or higher on the first three quarterlies.

Accumulate no more than six (6) total absences in a full year course or three (3) absences in a semester course.

Note: Five (5) or more consecutive days absent will not count in the total providing that the student provides proof from a licensed physician attesting to the injury or illness mandating the student is exempt from attending school.

Attendance will be mandatory during the exam period for which the student is exempt. Students who are absent must adhere to the make-up policy as listed in number 5 of this policy.

AP Courses - In lieu of taking a 4th marking period quarterly in June, students may be required to take an AP test at the time approved by College Board. Fourth marking period grades will be left up to the discretion of the individual instructor on the criteria for which the student will be graded (project, etc.).

Teacher Procedures

Teachers will complete Exhibit 6147.2 for all students who will receive an exemption. A copy of this completed exhibit will be submitted to the guidance counselor and attendance administrator for verification purposes and forwarded to the principal.

Junior English

Exemptions from 4th quarterly in English 11 or English 11 H will be granted for Grade 11 students who score "Advanced Proficient" on the Language Arts section of the Required State Assessment.

- If the scores are not received from the State of New Jersey before the 4th quarterly period, all students will take the final quarterly.
- When scores arrive from the State, all students who scored "Advanced Proficient" on the State Assessment will receive an "A" as their English 11 final exam grade.

Junior Math

Exemptions from 4th quarterly in Math courses will be granted for Grade 11 students who score "Advanced Proficient" on the math section of the Required State Exam.

- If the scores are not received from the State of New Jersey before the 4th quarterly period, all students will take the final quarterly.
- When scores arrive from the State, all students who scored "Advanced Proficient" on the State exam will receive an "A" as their Grade 11 final Math exam grade.

Calculation of semester 1 and final grades:

Semester 1

First Marking Period Grade 20%
Second Marking Period Grade 20%
Quarterly 1 5%
Quarterly 2 5%

Semester 2

Third Marking Period Grade 20%
Fourth Marking Period Grade 20%
Quarterly 3 5%
Quarterly 4 5%

Final Grade = (Semester 1 + Semester 2) / 2

Plagiarism

Pupils are expected to be honest in all of their academic work and must not at any time engage in any of the following acts:

1. Cheating on examinations, including but not limited to, the non-authorized use of books or notes, the use of crib sheets, copying from other pupils' papers, exchanging information with other pupils orally, in writing, or by signals, obtaining copies of the examination illegally and other similar activities. Unless authorized by the classroom teacher, no student may use a cell phone during a formative or summative assessment. Use of an unauthorized cell phone or other electronic device (iPod, iPad, etc.) may be construed by the classroom teacher as an act of plagiarism.
2. Plagiarism is not permitted in term papers, themes, essays, reports, images, take-home examinations, and other academic work. Plagiarism is defined as stealing or use without acknowledgement of the ideas, words, formulas, textual materials, on line services, computer programs, etc. of another person or in any way presenting the work of another person as one's own.
3. Falsification, including forging signatures, altering answers after they have been graded, the insertion of answers after the fact, the erasure of grader's markings, and other acts that allow for falsely taking credit.

pupil found guilty of academic dishonesty may be subjected to a full range of penalties including, but not limited to, reprimand and loss of credit for the work that is plagiarized. The penalty for plagiarism and/or cheating is determined by the classroom teacher in conjunction with the principal and/or principal's designee.(see Code of Conduct)

A teacher who believes that a pupil has been academically dishonest in his/her class should resolve the matter in the following manner:

Reprimand the pupil orally and/or in writing. The teacher in conjunction with the principal and/or principal designee may also be authorized to withhold credit in the work tainted by the academic dishonesty.

If warranted, the teacher shall file a written complaint against the pupil with the Principal, requesting a more stringent form of discipline. The complaint must describe in detail the academic dishonesty that is alleged to have taken place, and must request that the matter be reviewed by the Principal.

The Principal will determine if further discipline of the pupil is appropriate, and will determine the nature of the discipline on a case-by-case basis.

If the pupil is not in agreement with the disciplinary action of the Principal, he/she may appeal the action to the Superintendent. If the pupil is dissatisfied with the Superintendent's disposition of the case, he/she may grieve the action in accordance with Policy 5145.6 Pupil Grievance.

Date: Approved: January 25, 2007
Revised: September 25, 2008
Revised: June 18, 2009
Revised: November 19, 2009
Revised: May 5, 2011
Revised: July 19, 2012
Revised: April 18, 2013
Revised: September 19, 2013
Revised: August 6, 2014
Revised (First Reading): September 24, 2014