

HILLCREST MIDDLE SCHOOL



Understanding South Carolina's New Grading Policy

Partnering for Student Success

At Hillcrest Middle School, we are committed to maintaining high expectations while providing students with opportunities to learn, grow, and succeed.

Beginning this school year, all South Carolina public schools must follow new statewide grading legislation regarding minimum grades and missing assignments.

★ What's Changed?

South Carolina passed statewide legislation (House Bill 5073) that prohibits school districts from using "grade-floor" policies.

What does this mean?

- ✓ Grades will reflect a student's actual academic performance.
- ✓ If a student earns a 28 on an assessment, the grade entered will be a 28.
- ✓ If a student does not submit an assignment, the grade entered will be a 0.
- ✗ Schools may no longer assign a minimum grade such as a 50 when a student earns a lower score or does not complete the assignment.



Missing or Incomplete Work

Assignments that are not completed or submitted **WILL receive a zero.**

Student Responsibilities

Students are expected to:

- Complete assignments on time
- Participate actively in class
- Ask for help when needed
- Stay organized and monitor grades regularly



Assessment Information

Students will complete the following each grading period (at a minimum):

Major Assessments

- 3 major assessments/tests/projects
- ELA classes will complete 4 major assessments

Minor Assessments

- 8 minor assessments/assignments

These assessments provide a complete picture of student learning and progress.



Redo & Retake Opportunities

Hillcrest Middle School believes in providing students with opportunities to improve their understanding of content.

Students May:

- ✓ Retake or redo major assessments/tests

Students May Not:

- ✗ Redo projects (same as before)
- ✗ Redo essays (same as before)

Please refer to the HMS Retake/Redo Policy for complete expectations and eligibility requirements.



High School Credit & Content Recovery

Under the new state law:

Students must complete and submit all required assignments in a timely manner to be eligible for district-approved credit recovery or content recovery opportunities.

Incomplete work may also impact:

- Content Recovery Eligibility
- High School Credit Opportunities
- Athletic Eligibility



How Can Parents Help?

Parents and guardians play an important role in student success.

We encourage families to:

- ✓ Monitor grades regularly
- ✓ Check assignment completion frequently
- ✓ Encourage strong study habits
- ✓ Communicate with teachers when concerns arise
- ✓ Support attendance and punctuality

Working together, we can help all students achieve success while building responsibility and independence.



Hillcrest Middle School Remains Committed To:

- High academic expectations for students
- Fair and accurate grading practices
- Student growth and achievement
- Strong partnerships with families

"Caring. Committed. Connected."

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