

Hello Eich Families,

We wanted to give a few updates in regards to grading. The purpose of grades is to provide students, parents, and staff with honest and clear communication about how a student is doing academically, as well as with their learning behaviors. Our goal is to improve learning for all students.

As we have said before, grades should reflect consistent academic achievement on year-long standards proficiency. Teachers determine a final grade based on consistency and recency of student evidence.

The default calculation in the online gradebook was previously mode. We are updating the gradebook so **the default calculation is now median**.

The median of a set of data is the middlemost number in the set when arranged from least to greatest. If there is an even number of scores it will average the middle two. The median gets rid of outliers and focuses on the most consistent level of performance over time.

After receiving valuable feedback from teachers and going through different score scenarios with our staff, the mode was not consistently reflecting student performance. For example, if a student received a 3, 7, 5 there was no mode and PowerSchool was defaulting to a 7. Our staff felt this was not an accurate representation of the student's achievement.

Teachers are going over this change with students today and tomorrow in their math classes, giving examples of scores. Some examples of what your student saw are below.

If you have any questions please let me or your child's teacher know. First Trimester report cards will be emailed home on Friday, November 8th.

Examples:

Scores	Median (Now)	Mode (Before)
3, 7, 5	5	7
5, 7, 7	7	7
3, 3, 7, 5	4	3
7, 4, 2, 5	5	7
5, 5, 6, 6, 7	6	6
1, 4, 6, 1, 5	4	1

Thank you,

*Darren Brown*

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