

# WPS STANDARDS–REFERENCED GRADING FAQs

**Q: What is Standards-Referenced Grading (SRG)?**

A: In education, the term “Standards-Referenced” refers to teaching and assessing based on learning standards —i.e., written descriptions of what students are expected to know and be able to do at a specific stage of their education.

**Q: What are the advantages of SRG?**

A: Grades will be based on students’ academic learning. Families, teachers and students will know which standards students are mastering and which standards students need additional learning opportunities and/or practice. Teachers will know which standards need to be re-taught.

**Q: Why use a 0 to 4 point grading scale?**

A: The 0 to 4 point scale allows Wichita Public Schools to consistently define levels what students should know and be able to do. We can say, “in order to get a 3 on this topic, you must know and be able to...” rather than, “In order to get an A, you need to get a 95 percent on this quiz.” Through Standards-Referenced grading, the focus is on academic learning, not on how many points a student can accumulate on specific assignments.

**Q: What do the different points on the 0 to 4 point grading scale represent?**

A: 0 - Failing: even with help, a student is not successful or no evidence of learning is shown; 1 - Emerging: with help, student demonstrates some understanding of foundational skills and grade-level standards; 2 - Developing: student demonstrates basic understanding and is partially proficient at meeting grade-level standards; 3 - Proficient: Student demonstrates mastery on grade-level standards. This is the target/ goal for student success and should be celebrated; 4 - Advanced: Student demonstrates knowledge which exceeds grade-level standards.

**Q: How will students be able to show what they know and can do?**

A: Standards-Referenced grading allows students to create a “body of evidence” that represents student learning over time. This evidence may include: formal or informal assessments, projects, quizzes, papers, and oral presentations.

**Q: What information will be on progress reports?**

A: Progress reports will contain information about academic learning. Information about behavior and work habits will also appear on the progress report but will not help determine student grades. Progress reports will be issued at the end of every quarter.