**Wagner Middle School, MS 167** 

220 East 76th Street Jennifer Rehn Losquadro, Principal

New York, NY 10021 Courtney Delaney, Assistant Principal

phone: 212-535-8610 Lindsay Oakes, Assistant Principal

fax: 212-472-9385 Lisa Stefanick, Assistant Principal

[www.wagner167.org](http://www.wagner167.org)

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September 7, 2017

Dear Families,

Please find below the new grading policy for Wagner Middle School. This policy will be reviewed with families as follows:

6th grade: During Curriculum Night on September 26th at 5:30 PM in the auditorium

7th grade: During High School Night on September 28th at 5:30 PM in the auditorium

8th grade: During High School Night on September 18th at 5:30 PM in the auditorium

Sincerely,

Jennifer Rehn Losquadro

Principal

**Wagner Middle School**

**Grading Policy**

**2017 - 2018**

At Wagner Middle School, our grading policy aligns with our school mission of preparing our students to be critical thinkers, independent, and responsible beyond their years at Wagner.

We believe that the purpose of grades is to demonstrate students’ understanding and mastery of skills in a content area at a given point in time. Students are given the opportunity to demonstrate mastery through multiple measures of performance for each course.

Grades reflect a combination of classwork, homework, formative assessments, summative assessments, as well as students’ work habits in each content area.

**Timeline of grades**

Wagner Middle School issues report cards three times a year, with the final grade given on the last report card issued. Wagner also issues interim reports three times a year. At the conclusion of each year, final grades are entered onto students’ middle school transcripts and serve as the permanent grade on record for that particular course.

**Scale of grades**

Cumulative final grades for each trimester range from 60-100. A grade of 65 and higher is passing.

**Work Habits**

Each course’s grading policy includes a Work Habits category that is worth 5% of a student’s grade for each trimester. Students will be assessed in each course using a school-wide rubric.

**Late Assignments**

In each course, late assignments will be accepted up to one week after the due date, with penalty in the Work Habits category. After one week, late assignments including major assignments and homework will not be accepted for credit. For major assignments (projects, summative assessments, formative assessments), teachers will contact families when students do not hand in the assignment on the due date.

Students who have been absent from class for verified, legitimate reasons will be given the equivalent number of days to make up assignments that were given when absent. Assignments that were due on the day the student was absent are due the next day back.

For any missed work, including excused absences, students have the responsibility to approach their teachers to make up the work.

**Other School-Wide Grading Expectations**

In all courses, there will not be any extra credit assignments.

Revisions (including corrections or retakes) will be allowed ***ONLY*** for formative assessments that a content-area department has previously decided upon. Students have one week after the return of the assessment to independently complete revisions. After revisions are submitted to the teacher, a revised grade on the formative assessment will be entered into PupilPath. The purpose of Summative Assessments is to demonstrate final student mastery of standards making retakes and revisions inappropriate.

Any academic dishonesty, such as plagiarism, having someone else complete your work, copying off of a student, will be referred to the grade-level assistant principal for disciplinary actions, which may include loss of credit for the assignment.

**Opportunities to Discuss Student Progress**

Parent-teacher conferences will take place at least twice a year. Teachers, counselors, and administrators can also be reached via email to discuss student progress anytime outside the scheduled conferences. Additionally, families can make appointments to meet with staff on Tuesday afternoons beginning at 2:40. Please allow school staff 48 hours to respond to requests.

**Content-Area Department Grading Policies**

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| **ELA Grading Policy** | | |
| **Category** | **Percent** | **Description** |
| Homework | 10% | There will be a minimum of 10 homework grades per trimester. These grades could include reader’s and writer’s notebook entries, reading log spot checks, and reflections. Homework assignments may be evaluated for completion and/or accuracy. |
| Classwork | 25% | There will be a minimum of 10 classwork grades per trimester. These grades could include reader’s and writer’s notebook entries, discussions, and the writing process. |
| Formative Assessments | 25% | There will be a minimum of 5 grades per trimester. These grades could include reader’s and writer’s notebooks, conferences, reading log, book reviews, exit tickets, and projects. |
| Summative Assessments | 35% | There will be a minimum of 4 grades per trimester. These grades could include published writing pieces, reader’s and writer’s notebooks,the writing process, conferences, and projects. |
| Work Habits | 5% | Grades will be determined by a school-wide rubric. |

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| **Mathematics Grading Policy** | | |
| **Category** | **Percent** | **Description** |
| Homework | 10% | There will be a minimum of 10 homework grades per trimester. Homework assignments can be evaluated for both completion and accuracy. |
| Classwork/Active Engagement | 10% | There will be a minimum of 8 grades per trimester from classwork. These grades will include graded Do Nows, Exit Tickets, worksheets, Binder/Notebook Checks, Small group work with a rubric. The Active Engagement grades will be assessed twice a trimester using a student self-assessment tool and a teacher-assessment rubric. |
| Formative & Summative Assessments | 40% | There will be a minimum of 5 grades per trimester. These grades will consist of both formative (quizzes) and summative (mid-unit and post-assessments). |
| Tasks | 35% | There will be a minimum of 4 grades per trimester. These grades will include Problems of the Month, Tasks, Portfolio Pieces and Projects. |
| Work Habits | 5% | Grades will be determined by a school-wide rubric. |

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| **Social Studies Grading Policy** | | |
| **Category** | **Percent** | **Description** |
| Homework | 15% | There will be a minimum of 10 homework grades per trimester. Homework assignments may be evaluated for completion and/or accuracy. |
| Formative Assessments | 40% | There will be a minimum of 12 grades per trimester. These grades will include performance assessments, quizzes, projects, exit slips, and class work assignments. |
| Summative Assessments | 40% | There will be a minimum of 3 grades per trimester. These grades will include tests, projects, unit tasks, and performance assessments. |
| Work Habits | 5% | Grades will be determined by a school-wide rubric. |

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| **Science Grading Policy** | | |
| **Category** | **Percent** | **Description** |
| Homework | 10% | There will be a minimum of 10 homework grades per trimester. Homework assignments may be evaluated for completion and/or accuracy. |
| Classwork | 15% | There will be a minimum of 3 classwork grades per trimester. These grades may include binder/notebook checks, lab activities/group work, discussion, do nows and exit/entrance slips |
| Formative Assessments | 25% | There will be a minimum of 3 grades per trimester. These grades may include quizzes, exit/entrance slips, and projects. |
| Summative Assessments | 45% | There will be a minimum of 3 grades per trimester. These grades may include assessments and projects. |
| Work Habits | 5% | Grades will be determined by a school-wide rubric. |

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| **Foreign Language Grading Policy** | | |
| **Category** | **Percent** | **Description** |
| Homework | 10% | There will be a minimum of 10 homework grades per trimester. These grades will include daily homework worksheets, writing assignments, and media-related assignments. These will be evaluated for completion and accuracy. |
| Classwork | 25% | This will include the “Do Now” assignments, class assignments, and ACTIVE participation in class (speaking Spanish, volunteering, partner work). |
| Formative & Summative Assessments | 40% | There will be a minimum of 3 grades per trimester. The assessments can include quizzes, tests, writing assessments, speaking assessments, and notebook grades.  There will be a Spanish proficiency exam at the end of 7th and 8th grade. The proficiency exams will be administered in June. The results of this exam for 8th grade students will be reported to high school and be included on the student’s official transcript. |
| Projects | 20% | There will be a minimum of 1 project per trimester. The project will be based on material learned in a unit. |
| Work Habits | 5% | Grades will be determined by a school-wide rubric. |

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| **Visual Arts Grading Policy** | | |
| **Category** | **Percent** | **Description** |
| Classwork | 40% | Active engagement in the tasks. |
| Artwork | 40% | 1 minimum grade per trimester: originality of concept and visual design of artwork (balance, color, composition, and space), applying classroom concepts to artwork, craftsmanship of artwork (planning, effort, technique, accuracy, neatness, and presentation), and class/critique participation |
| Art Writing | 15% | 1 minimum grade per trimester: written art reflections and written project responses |
| Work Habits | 5% | Grades will be determined by a school-wide rubric. |

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| **Music Grading Policy** | | |
| **Category** | **Percent** | **Description** |
| Ensemble Skills | 50% | There will be a minimum of 8 grades per trimester. Grades will be assigned weekly. |
| Playing Tests and Performances | 35% | There will be a minimum of 1 grade per trimester. |
| Written Tests | 10% | There will be a minimum of 1 grade per trimester. |
| Work Habits | 5% | Grades will be determined by a school-wide rubric. |

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| **Theatre Arts Grading Policy** | | |
| **Category** | **Percent** | **Description** |
| Homework and Journal Reflections | 25% | There will be a minimum of 2 assignments per trimester. |
| Classwork | 30% | There will be a minimum of 5 grades for class participation based on the number of weeks in the trimester. |
| Final Performances, Projects, and Assessments | 40% | There will be a minimum of 2 grades for this category based on final performances and units in the trimester. |
| Work Habits | 5% | Grades will be determined by a school-wide rubric. |

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| **Physical Education Grading Policy** | | |
| **Category** | **Percent** | **Description** |
| Written Assessment | 25% | Based on end of unit exams, two each semester. |
| Skills | 70% | Assessment of motor skills, physical education skills, and ability to work with others. |
| Work Habits | 5% | Grades will be determined by a school-wide rubric. |

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| **Technology Grading Policy** | | |
| **Category** | **Percent** | **Description** |
| Assessment | 10% | There will be a minimum of 2 grades per trimester. These grades may include formative and summative assessments. |
| Classwork | 40% | There will be a minimum of 3 grades per trimester. These grades will be determined using a rubric. |
| Projects | 45% | There will be a minimum of 2 grades per trimester. |
| Work Habits | 5% | Grades will be determined by a school-wide rubric. |

Updated 9/8/17