

Dear Patron of Matheson Junior High,

Our school has implemented proficiency-based grading to accurately report on areas of academic strength and weakness in relation to core standards. When parents, teachers and students have clear information about a student's understanding of particular concepts and skills, opportunities for reteaching or enrichment can be tailored to meet the needs of the student.

In shifting to reporting on student proficiency in the standards, the report card in our school will reflect those changes by reporting a *numerical proficiency score* rather than a letter grade. The report card scores are intended to communicate progress toward proficiency of articulated course content standards to students and parents. They indicate what a student knows and is able to do. They encourage the student to act on feedback and the teacher to adjust and individualize instruction.

For our 7-8 grade courses, the proficiency score will be listed on the report card. That score will range between 0-4, extended to the tenths place in decimals. If your 7-8 grade student is enrolled in a course that bears high school graduation credit such as world language or Secondary Math 1, the proficiency score for that course will be converted into a letter grade. For those students, their report card will have both letter grades and proficiency scores.

4-Highly Proficient	I exceed expectations and can apply the standard in complex ways.
3- Proficient	I meet the expectations described in the standard and can do them independently.
2-Approaching Proficient	I am getting close to meeting expectations and can do the simpler parts of the standard independently.
1-Below Proficient	I still need help and support from my teacher to do the simpler parts of the standard.

We will not be issuing letter grades for students; therefore, we will no longer calculate a cumulative grade point average for students in grades 7-8. The progress of the student throughout the year in each course is still documented in the gradebook portal and growth and increased proficiency in courses is available for viewing at any time. For students in graduation credit-bearing courses, those grades and credits will be part of the high school transcript when they begin 9th grade.

Matheson JHS will continue to recognize excellence in academic performance through Matheson Way recognition, eligibility requirements for teams or student leaders, as well as extra-curricular activities. We are excited to celebrate your student's success and growth.

Best Regards,

Dawn Hauser, Principal