

# Valley Jr. High Disclosure

## PBG

This year in Granite School District, each Jr. High is transitioning to Proficiency-Based Grading. Proficiency Based Grading, or PBG, is a way to measure and report on what students actually know and can do in each class. This is a shift in thinking from the previous method of grading which included extra credit to boost grades, as well as penalizing students for late work - both of which obscure what a grade really means. When you check your student's grades, you will know what specific skill they're struggling with, not just what assignment they're missing. When you see a number from 1-4 on the report card, you will have a better idea than ever before of what your student understands and knows in that content area, as well as the progress they've made to get there.

### What can I expect to see?

- **Numbers 1-4 on Report Cards** instead of A-F letter grades.
- **Less focus on homework.** Now the focus is on practice that helps students understand how to master the standard. Many times, this practice happens in class.
- **A wide variety of ways to assess student learning.** Students will be given multiple opportunities to show they know a standard...and if they haven't got it quite yet, they can retake those assessments.
- **A broader definition of assessment** - It's not limited to a multiple choice test or a five page exam. Assessment can be in the form of a project, group work, an essay, a conversation, a digital creation, etc. Most assessments will be small - measuring only one skill or standard at a time.

4

#### Highly Proficient

I can exceed expectations and apply the standard in complex ways.

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3

#### Proficient

I meet the expectations described in the standard and can do them independently.

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2

#### Approaching Proficient

I am getting close to meeting expectations and can do the simpler parts of the standard independently.

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1

#### Below Proficient

I still need help and support from my teacher to do the simpler parts of the standard.

Still have questions? Go to <https://www.graniteschools.org/grading/> for more information, or ask any staff member.

## Assessments

Each standard will be assessed three times, with increasing weight given to later assessments-reflecting the greater amount of time a student has had to learn and master the skill.

Students can re-take any assessment up until the last week of the grading period. In order to show that learning has taken place in between tries, students will be asked to complete practice on the skill that they're working to master, and to give that completed practice to a teacher before being given the retake.

## PRIDE

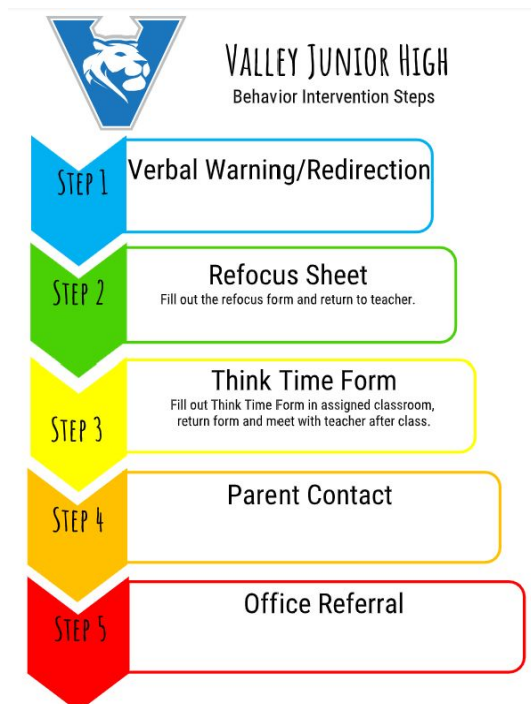
Valley Jr. High Ligers follow behavior expectations in each area of the school that corresponds to our school values.

When students show that they are respectful in the cafeteria by saying thank you to the cafeteria workers, or put forth extra effort on a difficult concept in math, **teachers reward students with Liger coins**. Students can use these coins on Fridays in the store to buy the reward of their choice- candy, sports equipment, and more.



## Flow-Chart:

Students enrolled at Valley Jr. High not only learn English, Math, Science, and Social Studies, among other curriculum, but they also learn behaviors that will help them succeed in life. When students have a difficult time following instructions, the flowchart is used to help students stop and think about their decisions, each step along the way. At each step, a teacher or staff member reteaches the expectation and gives the student an additional opportunity to change their behavior.



# Cell Phone Policy

At Valley Jr. High, we understand that cell phones link students to parents, and in certain circumstances may be used for educational purposes within the classroom. However, we have also seen the devastation caused when a student is bullied on social media, victimized by sexting, or distracted to the point of being unable to learn with these same devices during school. Our cell phone policy seeks to protect the heart of why a student is in school - to learn, as well as a parent's desire to be able to contact their student, while doing our utmost to deter the very real negative affect on our student body and school culture.

Students may have their phones out before and after school, in the hallways, and during lunch. During class, phones are expected to be put away unless students are asked by a teacher to use it for classroom work. The school is not responsible for any lost, stolen, or damaged cell phones. All phone calls must be made from inside the front office, either from a student's cell phone or school phone. Students are not to take pictures or videos of anyone else at school, student or adult, unless they have received prior permission from a teacher. Any staff member who observes a cell phone violation may request a student's phone, and students are to comply with that request. Staff members will check the phone in with the front office. Students who refuse to give their phone to a teacher or staff member when requested will receive an immediate office referral and a potential parent meeting.

Having a cell phone at school is a privilege, and is conditional on the student's ability to follow this generous cell phone policy.

- 1st offense: The student will receive a warning.
- 2nd offense: The phone will be confiscated and turned into the office where the student may retrieve it.
- 3rd and each subsequent offense: A parent or guardian must retrieve the phone from the front office.

All items which have not been claimed at the front office by June 30, 2020 will be donated. **Parents are asked to minimize distractions for students by not texting or calling students during the day.**

# Chromebook Policy

Technology prepares students for the 21st century, and Valley Jr. High is proud to support a 1:1 chromebook to student ratio. The chromebook is the property of the school. At the beginning of the year, a chromebook and a carrying case are checked out to each student. Identifying stickers or tags on the chromebook and the bag are considered part of the device and may not be removed or destroyed. Students retrieve the chromebook from their 7th period teacher at the beginning of the day and return it at the end.

Students who leave school in the middle of the day should turn their chromebook into the main office, which will then deliver it to the 7th period teacher. Chromebooks are to be stowed in lockers during lunch and gym. If for any reason a student discovers that a chromebook is lost, malfunctioning, or otherwise unable to be used, they should report it immediately to the librarian. Under no circumstances should a student ever log into another student's chromebook. Each teacher has several official loaner chromebooks for students to use in the rare circumstance that a chromebook is unavailable.

In class, chromebooks remain closed until asked to be opened by the teacher. Students are expected to sign into the appropriate classroom in Lan School and remain in that classroom for the duration of class.

Students who willfully mistreat, vandalize, or lose their chromebook will be charged the value of the replacement and may be subject to additional consequences as determined by the administration. Students must relinquish the chromebook when asked by any school staff. Users have no expectation of privacy on the device. Games and other non-educational uses are not allowed. Images, videos, words, or sounds relating to pornography, anything lewd or obscene, weapons, drugs, violence, or gangs is not allowed. Cyber bullying on any device is not tolerated. Students who egregiously or regularly violate the terms and conditions of the chromebook policy may have the privilege of using a chromebook revoked in addition to appropriate school consequences.

## Hall Passes

Valley Jr. High's hall pass policy reflects the high value we place on the instructional minutes students receive throughout the day. During the class period, students should remain in class. The five minutes provided during passion period are to be used for going to the bathroom, getting a drink, and visiting with friends and lockers on the way to class. We understand that sometimes emergencies happen, and a teacher may choose to grant up to 3 hall passes per quarter. Hall passes may not be used during the first or last ten minutes of class, during 5th period, or on Fridays, due to the extremely shortened class periods. Before leaving class, students are expected to put the hall pass vest on correctly. The hall pass vest only extends to granting one student at a time hall pass privileges. Students in the hall without the vest, wearing the vest incorrectly, or without a note from the office will be asked to return to class and may lose hall pass privileges.