**Subject: High School Grading Changes for School Year 2023-24**

Dear Saint Paul Public Schools high school families,

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to your student’s learning throughout this school year. We would like to share that there will be some **positive** **changes to grading practices at all SPPS high schools beginning in the 2023-24 school year**.

SPPS made several grading changes during the COVID-19 pandemic to lower barriers caused by distance learning. Throughout this school year, high school principals, counselors and educators across the district have examined ways to improve grading policies based on research-based practices. Starting next school year, SPPS is shifting to more **consistent and equitable grading practices across all high schools to ensure that students’ grades truly reflect what they’ve learned.**

Key changes include:

* Educators will use a common grading scale across all SPPS high schools.
* Grades lower than “D-” will be noted on report cards as “N” and affect students’ GPAs. This is a change from the past two years where non-passing grades have not affected students’ overall GPAs.
* Educators will provide clear expectations on how students will be assessed at the beginning of a unit or course.
* Students will continue to be held accountable for their learning with multiple opportunities to show progress and understanding of the content.
* Educators will have consistent practices on retaking homework and tests.

These grading changes will be implemented in stages over the next three years so students and staff have time to adjust. For more information, visit the [Grading Practices FAQ webpage](https://www.spps.org/Page/46155).

High school principals and other school and district leaders will continue to support students, staff and families through these changes. If you have any questions, please reach out to your school’s principal. More details will be provided before the 2023-24 school year starts, including information sessions with language support in the fall.