

3 Steps for Starting a Standards Based Grading System

1. Stop talking about textbook sections and start talking about topics.
 - This small step will help students turn the conversation to what they need to know.
2. Focus assessments on one or two standards
 - This gives students a chance to show mastery (or not) on just a few topics.
 - It also means that students can't "bomb" one section of the assessment and get a decent overall score.
3. Give more qualitative feedback
 - Change from numbers to letters. This will help students concentrate on what they know and how well they know it, not how many points they acquired.

SCORE	Explanation of the Score:	What I want you to learn from the score:
A (5)	Algebra & Arithmetic is correct. The solution is complete.	I know the topic.
B (4)	Algebra is correct. There are calculation errors in the solution.	I know the topic but I made a calculation mistake.
C (3)	Some minor Algebra errors are present. The solution is incomplete but on the correct track.	I know some parts of the topic but I'm still learning parts of it.
D (2)	Major Algebra error(s) are present. The solution is incomplete and incorrect.	I don't really understand the topic thoroughly enough.
F (1)	Almost no attempt was made to provide a solution.	I've seen the topic but I don't know enough do anything.
F (0)	Question is blank.	I did not try to answer the question.

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