

Explanation of McAuliffe Grading System:

In order to support the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme assessment philosophy, McAuliffe uses a 0-8 grading scale. While this system is different from a traditional grading system (based on percentages) and the previous 1-4 DPS system, we feel it better aligns with our school's mission around assessment (the McAuliffe assessment policy can be found on our website). The descriptors for this scale compared to our previous scale (and the one DPS still uses for middle schools) is below. It's important to note that students also receive qualitative feedback that elaborates on what a student knows and can do associated with each assignment based on the associated rubric, but those comments may not be recorded in Infinite Campus.

Additional helpful information:

- If your student is demonstrating "Competent Command" or "Strong Command," on assessments, then he or she is meeting the grade-level standards covered throughout the unit.
- If your student is demonstrating "Approaching Command," this means they are very close to where they need to be. Your student will probably be able to reach a "Competent Command" level without much extra support outside of class.
- If your student is demonstrating below an "Approaching Command," that is, below a "4," then he or she may need extra support outside of school. Please contact your student's teacher to see what additional resources or supports are available at McAuliffe. In addition, you might ask for ideas for how you might support your child with his or her schoolwork at home.
- To reach an "Exceptional" or "Distinguished" command level, your student must meet expectations that are above grade-level. These command levels are truly exceptional, and should be celebrated as such. If your student does not bring home an "Exceptional" or "Distinguished" command level on an assessment, this is not something that should cause worry. It just means your child has not demonstrated thinking and understanding that is truly above the high standards that are set for each assignment.
- Each student has a section in their binders with returned work that you can check with more detailed feedback on your students' work.

Description	MYP Score	District Score	Traditional
Exceptional	8	4	A
Distinguished	7		A-
Strong	6	3	B
Competent	5		B-
Approaching	4	2	C
Partial	3		C-
Limited	2	1	D
Minimal	1		D-
The student does not meet any of the requirements in the standard	0	Incomplete	F