

McAuliffe International School Grading

McAuliffe's grades with a standards based grading system, in which we are able to provide more nuanced feedback than the traditional DPS model. While this is different from a traditional grading system (based on percentages) and previous DPS models (1-4), we feel this best aligns with our school's mission and gives us a better understanding of where our students are strong already and where we can support growth.

Each semester, teachers focus on specific academic standards that students should be meeting through their course work. Students will earn a grade in any standard taught that semester, based on their level of mastery (see below). Additionally, students will earn an effort grade that represents their overall engagement in the course for that semester- participation, work completion, attendance and on-time-arrival, behavior, and strength of academic habits. While the effort and standard grade are separated at McAuliffe, it is important to give weight to both grades as they will all be coupled into a percentage grade in high school.

If a student is generally scoring in the 5-6 range (Competent to Strong), they are considered to be on grade level. For a student to reach 7's and 8's (Distinguished to Exceptional), they must meet expectations that are above their grade level. These scores are truly exceptional and are atypical- they should be celebrated as such. If your child does not score 7's and 8's, this is not something that should cause concern or worry.

If a student at McAuliffe is typically scoring in the 3-4 range, teachers are watching to see if they are growing and approaching grade level as their work progresses. If they continue to remain at these assessment scores for more than a few months without movement toward grade level, teachers will reach out to the culture team and the family for support and next steps.

6th grade students come to McAuliffe from over 30 different elementary schools every fall and have a variety of struggles, learning gaps and needs. **It is our goal, that by the END of 6th grade, every student is able to consistently score Competent (5's or higher) in all Academic Standards, and ideally 6's, 7's and 8's in Effort.**

McAuliffe Grade Description	McAuliffe Score	DPS Score	High School Expectation
Exceptional	8	4	A
Distinguished	7	4	A
Strong	6	4	A-
Competent	5	3	B/B+
Approaching	4	2	C/C+
Partial	3	2	C-
Limited	2	1	D
Minimal	1	1	D-/F
The student does not meet requirements in this standard- this may be because of excessive absences, missing work, behavior, etc.	1	Insufficient Body of Evidence	F