



HAMPDEN CHARTER SCHOOL OF SCIENCE

EAST-WEST

Hampden Charter School of Science
20 Johnson Road Chicopee, MA 01022
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GRADE PROMOTION POLICY

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Grade Promotion Policy For Middle School - Grades 6-8

1. **Attendance:** Any student who exceeds ten (10) unexcused absences in one school year will not be promoted to the next grade level.
 - a. Within a marking period, should a student accrue more than ten (10) absences, whether excused or unexcused, their grade for core classes will be set as the Quarter Final grade for that period. For additional details, please refer to the 20% policy outlined below. An exemption from the Quarter Final exam is only granted if the student possesses verified documentation for their absence during the exam days. In such instances, their marking period grade will remain unchanged.
2. **Core Course Requirement:** A middle school student must pass all core courses (ELA, math, science, or social studies) to advance to the next grade level.
 - a. Middle school students failing one or two core courses are required to attend summer school. Promotion to the subsequent grade requires successful completion of all summer courses. A grade below 65% in any summer course equates to failing the respective core course, and the student will be retained in their current grade the following school year.
 - b. Students failing three or more core courses will directly repeat their current grade the next year.
 - c. If summer school isn't an option, the HCSS Administration may compel the student to undertake supplementary coursework or sit for a proficiency exam in August.

Note: HCSS does not accept summer school credits from other institutions as transfer credits.

HIGH SCHOOL

Grade Promotion Policy For High School, Grades 9-12

1. **Attendance:**

Annual Absence Limit: A student with more than ten (10) unexcused absences during a School Year will be retained in the current grade level and will not earn any credit.

Marking Period Absence Impact: If a student accrues over ten (10) absences, encompassing both excused and unexcused, within a marking period, the Quarter Final grade will equate to the grade earned in the core classes for that period. Additional details can be found in the 20% policy below.

Exemption from Quarter Final Exam: An exemption from the Quarter Final exam will only be granted if the student possesses verified documentation of their absence during the Quarter Final exam days. In this scenario, the marking period grade will remain unaltered.
2. **Course Credit Recovery:**
 - a. **Summer School Enrollment:** High school students who do not pass a core course (ELA, math, science, or social studies) must attend the summer school.



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- b. Post-Summer School Grade Adjustment: Upon successful completion of summer school, the student's grade for the previously failed core course will be adjusted to a passing mark of 65%.
 - c. Failure in Summer School: Should a student's grade remain below 65% after summer school, they must successfully retake the course to meet graduation requirements.
 3. **GPA and Core Courses:** Any student who fails two or more courses in a school year will be referred to the academic committee for further review to determine grade promotion status.

Note: HCSS does not accept summer school credits from other institutions as transfer credits.

Quarterly Attendance and Proficiency Policy(20% Policy):

1. Absence Threshold: Students with an absenteeism rate of 20% or more, whether excused or unexcused, in a core course during a quarter must demonstrate their proficiency in the Quarter Finals.
2. Grade Determination: The final grade for the quarter will be based on the proficiency test score, capped at a maximum of 80 (B-).
3. Special Considerations: For students with a validated medical condition supported by a physician's statement for Temporary Home or Hospital Education, the assessment of proficiency will be at the discretion of the Academic Team.