

“Why...would anyone want to change current grading practices? The answer is quite simple: grades are so imprecise that they are almost meaningless.” -Robert Marzano

A. DESCRIPTORS

What does 4, 3, 2, 1, X mean? The biggest misconception in SB grading is that the number scale equates to A, B, C, D, F...this is not the case! The chart below defines the rating scale.

Scale	Report Card Descriptor	Student Descriptor
4	Exceeding the grade-level standard- <i>The student exceeds proficiency in essential skills and concepts.</i>	I know or can do it well enough to make connections that weren't taught.
3	Meeting the standard - <i>The student demonstrates proficiency in essential skills and concepts.</i>	I know or can do everything that was taught without making mistakes.
2	Progressing toward the standard - <i>The student is developing an understanding of essential skills and concepts but has not yet met the standard.</i>	I know or can do all of the easy parts but I don't know or can't do harder parts.
1	Intensive progress needed to meet the standard – <i>The student has not yet begun to demonstrate an understanding of essential skills and concepts</i>	With help, I know or can do some of what is taught.
X	<i>Not assessed at this time.</i>	Standard has not been taught yet.

****A student who is identified as “making progress” has achieved appropriate learning and growth at each reporting period.**