



*A Middle and High School Learning Community*

December 19, 2019

Dear U-32 families,

Our seniors have started the college application process and we have begun to receive feedback from some of the early action/decision schools. Some of the out-of-state, larger universities have requested a conversion chart to the traditional Carnegie unit system in order to better understand our transcript and our students' performance. In an effort to provide these schools with a grade point average (GPA) that is more easily understood, we created a conversion from our proficiency-based scoring system to a more traditional GPA.

Throughout the process of implementing Proficiency-Based Graduation Requirements, we solicited feedback from college admissions officers, school counselors, and other college representatives regarding our school profile and GPA calculations. The school profile is the document that we send to colleges along with student transcripts so that colleges understand what we offer and how we operate at U-32. We developed both our proficiency-based transcript and the school profile with their feedback in order to ensure that it would be easily understood and used in the college admissions process. What we are now learning is that even with these efforts the GPA calculation is not easily understood by some colleges.

Our current calculation is based on the average of a student's course scores using our 1-4 scoring system. We recognize that calculating the GPA this way resulted in a GPA that did not reflect the rigor of our courses. Some colleges are having difficulty understanding this fully.

In response, we are *immediately* recalculating our students' GPAs according to the conversion chart below. We are providing this information to all colleges to which our seniors have already applied or plan to apply. Our transcripts will show the GPA with this conversion already completed so that colleges will not have to recalculate based on the conversion chart. We will update all students' transcripts to reflect this conversion going forward.

We promised all of our students and families, and especially our seniors, that we would make changes when necessary so that they were not penalized or disadvantaged in any way by the transition from a traditional Carnegie-based system to a proficiency-based learning system. Based on our early feedback from colleges we feel this change needs to happen now so that our students can be fairly considered for all college and scholarship opportunities to which they apply.

Thank you for your continued support.

Steven Dellinger-Pate  
U-32 Principal

U-32 Course Score	Carnegie Equivalent for GPA Calculation
4	4.0
3	3.5
2	2.5
1	1.5