

January 24, 2013

Dear Parents and Guardians of High School Students,

We are pleased to report that on January 22, 2013, the FBISD Board of Trustees approved the District resolution to suspend the legal requirement to count the end-of-course (EOC) STAAR assessments as 15% of a student's final grade in the course for the 2012-13 school year. This change is possible because of a recent ruling from the Texas Commissioner of Education to allow school districts to defer the 15% requirement. Therefore, **the EOC assessments will NOT count as 15% of your child's final grade for this year. Note: This change involves freshman and sophomore students taking EOC assessments. Current juniors and seniors remain under TAKS assessment requirements, not EOC.**

Because of this ruling, FBISD will be returning to our longstanding and successful procedure of awarding credit and grade points for high school courses based on semester grades. This is the procedure that has been followed for many years, with the exception of the 2011-12 school year.

Because it was originally communicated to students, parents and teachers that grade points and credit for yearlong courses would be awarded for the final average rather than semester grades, the District will be following the revised procedures below for the award of grade points and credit in 2012-13.

- **Grade points** will be awarded on semester grades. However, if the final average of a yearlong course would award the student higher grade points than the total of the two semester grades, then the final average will be used to award grade points.
- **Whole-course credit** will be awarded if the average of the two semester grades equals at least 70. If one semester is passed and the other failed, and the average of those semesters is less than 70, credit will be awarded for the passed semester only.

We are pleased with the School Board's decision to approve the 15% EOC resolution. We feel fortunate that we have the opportunity to return to previously established practices and are able to make decisions in the best interest of the students. Please do not hesitate to contact the school principal or counselor if you have questions regarding this information.

Sincerely,

Department of School Administration