

**Grading Practices for AP Physics 1 (Standards-Based Grading) updated as of 1/8/2019**  
(also, on my website at <https://www.pickphysics.com/ap-physics-1.html> )

**3<sup>rd</sup> quarter update!** A change in how retake tests will be done. I want every student to know that each test is important, and not to fool themselves into thinking, “Oh, I can just retake a test later.” Often times, this just hasn’t happened, or when it does students have performed worse! This quarter there will be ONE replacement test taken toward the end of the quarter during class time. You may select four total standards (from any of the quarter’s previous tests) to retake and let me know this at least a week in advance of your test. I’ll likely ask you to complete a small assignment for the retake. If you do so, you can get up to 10/10 on all the standards you retake. If not, you can earn up to 8/10 on all the standards you retake. Be careful NOT to miss a test before this – if you do, and are unable to take it before the test is handed back you will be required to retake the standards on the test you missed! If you’ll have a preplanned absence and you know about it, see me in advance. So overall, the goal of the modified retake policy is to (a) have students focus, study and prepare better for initial tests, (b) be able to have ALL students retake standards during class time, and (c) be better prepared for your AP exam in May.

Each quarter you will be assessed on the Lab Skills and Habits of Mind. Scores in each of these standards will be determined by **averaging your best score and the average of all your scores for each standard**. This is called a decaying average, by the way. For Habits of Mind, we will have you fill out a performance rubric toward the end of the quarter which allows you to reflect on how you’ve done in each area, and a place where I can give you individualized feedback. Things in the Habits of Mind area include aspects of homework completion, effort, participation in class discussion, timeliness of getting work done, etc.

Each quarter there will be different content standards. Unlike the Lab Skills and Habits of Mind, these may not necessarily be repeated for different quarters. Since mastery of the content is the goal here, your grade for each standard will be determined as an average between your **highest score** and your **most recent (latest)** score for that standard, with at least two unique assignments making up your average. In other words, the two averaged scores must be unique. For example, if your most recent score was also the highest score, then I would not count that twice. However, if you have a most recent score and an earlier score on another assignment which are both the highest score, I would average those.

A NOTE TO PARENTS AND STUDENTS: Don’t fret! Often times the first attempt at a standard isn’t going to be the best. That’s expected and normal. What it means is you need to NOT PANIC and understand that there will be multiple attempts at every content standard, and that normally this means your score in a standard will go up over time. Sometimes it may take a while, but you will have these extra attempts. If for some reason we won’t have multiple attempts at a standard, I won’t end up having that count toward your grade.

My goal is that each standard would count for 10 points. Each quarter you will have multiple attempts to attain each standard, and you will be allowed a retake test if you fill out a form requesting this and complete certain requirements prior to the retake date. You may earn points for content standards from labs, activities, or tests, but the final score will very likely be from a test.

My intention is to provide you with a list of the standards to be assessed each quarter, and for you and me to both keep a record of this. I’ll update grades once a week, and each standard (with a score) will be updated based on the criteria mentioned above. You can look at the SBGBook online ( <https://www.sbgbook.xyz/gbook/login/> ) to get the most detailed and up to date information about how you score in each standards, and pretty regularly I’ll try and import these into Infinite Campus.

My hope is this will be clearer and fairer way to score students’ ability to perform in class. Some of the best physics teachers nationally use this system, and one of the best English teachers I’ve known (Mr. Baptist) uses a similar system at Pickerington North! Now, I want to take class time to answer specific questions you may have.