Williamson County Schools

HONORS PORTFOLIO INITIATIVE

2012-2013

The WCS Honors Portfolio Initiative was developed in response to Tennessee Board of Education Policy 3.301, the Uniform Grading Policy, which states:

Local education agencies may elect to offer honors courses and National Industry Certification (NIC) courses. Local education agencies electing to offer honors courses will ensure that the approved honors courses substantially exceed the content standards, learning expectations, and performance indicators as approved by the State Board of Education. Further, each local education agency offering honors courses will ensure that additional rigor is being provided by implementing the framework of standards for honors courses.

The framework is found in the Honors Processes and Components document.

Portfolios

Teachers may choose between paper portfolios, electronic portfolios (CD or Jump Drive), and online portfolios through SharePoint.

Student Portfolios should be kept in the school during the school year for audit purposes. At the end of the school year, teachers may release the work to the student. It is highly recommended that teachers keep samples (both strong and weak) for exemplars for future students.

Grading

• An artifact is graded only if it is complete (all aspects of the assignment are met) and is accompanied by a completed entry slip (with all required information completed).
• The chosen 9 week artifact submission is weighted to represent at least 15% of the 9 week grade.
• If an artifact is not submitted by the end of the 9 week grading period, the student will receive an incomplete grade for that assignment and the 9 week period. It is up to the teacher to communicate with students and parents about completing the assignments for a grade change in a timely manner.
• All students will receive honors credit at the end of the school year by virtue of being enrolled in an honors course (this is computed electronically at the end of the year). It is not possible to withhold honors credit given our grading program.
structure. However, as stated above, the student’s overall average will be affected by incomplete or poor quality work, since each artifact is 15% of the 9 week grade.

- School teams (either during late start sessions or department meetings) should share student work samples for discussion, following established protocols for discussing student work.
- Principals will audit honors portfolios.
- Central office personnel will randomly audit portfolios during the school year.