# SIS ParentVUE \& Cumulative 

## Gradebook:

 The what and whyInformation for Families

## STS ParentVUE

Mobile - Don't have a Parentvue account? We have people in the cafeteria who can help you get set up!
ApP - Biggest areas of focus: attendance and gradebook

## Desktop



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## Attendance in SIS

- You will see a Calendar view with icons (in app and desktop).
- Toggle "on" for Days of Attendance to see details/reasons
- Click the date to get more information on specific days



## What is a "cumulative" gradebook?

Cumulative

- Four quarters; however, all assignments appear in subsequent quarters. It's cumulative.

Traditional

- Four separate quarters, averaged at the end
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How does this look?


## Cumulative

1st Q: 9 assignments
2nd Q: 18 assignments (including all of ist Q as well as new)

3rd Q: 27 assignments (including all of ist and 2 nd $Q$ as well as new)

4th Q: 36 assignments (all assignments for the year)

## Iraditional

lst Q: 9 assignments
2nd Q: 9 assignments
3rd Q: 9 assignments
4th Q: 9 assignments

## Yes...but why?

- Shows students their final grade in real time as it changes
- Example: A student gets an A first quarter, but fails the first assignment in second quarter
- Traditional: they have an F for 2 nd quarter until they raise their grade
- Cumulative: averages their grade in with all previous grades- more accurate representation of grade


## Yes...but why?

- Weights all assignments of a given type the same
- Example: A student has one test in lst quarter and three tests in 2nd quarter.
Traditional gradebook: the tests in 2nd quarter count for less of the total grade than the test in 1st quarter

Cumulative gradebook: All tests will have equal weight

## How will the grades look different?

Cumulative:

1st Q: 95.0\% A

2nd Q: 85.0\% B

3rd Q: $84.0 \%$ B

4th Q: $83 \%$ B

Final Grade: 83\% B

Traditional:
1st Q: 95.0\% A
2nd Q: 75.0\% C

3rd Q: 82.0\% B-

4th Q: 80.0\% B-

Final Grade: 83\% B

Let's Look at Parent Vue Cumulative

Traditional


Let's Look at Parent Vue- Second Quarter

Cumulative


Traditional


2nd Quarter- Rolling Gradebook contains ALL assignments! Traditional shows only

## Let's Look at Parent Vue- Third Quarter



## Let's Look at Parent Vue- Fourth Quarter



## Let's Look at Parent Vue- Final Grade



## Student Perspective: Pros and Cons

Pros:

- You ALWAYS know exactly how you're doing in a class!
- The "end of the quarter" is a much less stressful event

Cons:

- Students perceive that it is harder to change their grade as the year goes on
- Don't get the feeling of a "fresh start" each quarter


## How to Support Your Student

- Help them START STRONG! In a cumulative gradebook, students who start strong build momentum that carries them through the year
- As we move further into the year, remind them that the grades still count- they don't see dramatic changes, but the grades are changing!


## Want to Learn More?

Look for informational videos coming soon to News You Choose and our website.

Reach out to me (Emily Texdahl: ewtexdahl@fcps.edU) with your questions and comments. I am happy to create additional resources to support you!

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## Would the final grades ALWAYS be identical in the two types of gradebooks?

Short answer: no
If the teacher has an uneven number of assignments in different quarters in a traditional gradebook, it would not be the same!

- If there were 6 assignments in 1st quarter and 12 assignments in 2 nd quarter, but the quarters were averaged evenly, all of the first quarter assignments would count TWICE as much as the second quarter assignments!!
- Cumulative gradebook fixes this problem, which is one of its benefits!


## Why does the traditional gradebook weight grades unevenly?

Assume: Tests are $60 \%$ of the grade in each quarter. There are four quarters, averaged evenly, in a traditional gradebook.
-So, the test average from each quarter is worth $15 \%$ of the final grade.

If there is one test in lst quarter and three tests in 2nd quarter, the first quarter test is worth $15 \%$ of the final grade, whereas the tests in second quarter are each worth $5 \%$.

In a cumulative gradebook, all tests from the entire year average together to give $60 \%$. So if there are 10 tests all year, each would be worth $6 \%$ of the final grade.

## My student says "a bad grade hurts my grade, but a good grade doesn't raise it!"

- Ultimately, they aren't wrong! But, this has nothing to do with a cumulative vs. traditional gradebook
- Imagine that there are 10 tests in a year. The student has averaged $90 \%$ on all of the first 9 tests.
- If the student gets a 60\%, their test average drops to an $\mathbf{8 7 \%}$
- If the student gets a $100 \%$, their test average increases to a $91 \%$
- This is simply because the lower grade is FURTHER from their existing average
- The opposite would only be true if their grade in a course was fairly low

