

# Electronic Gradebook 

eSIS v. 8.0.8

## Teacher Version

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## Introduction

The purpose of this document is to show the School Level Teacher how to setup the NC WISE Gradebook and use it to enter student grades.

There are several terminologies that are used in the Gradebook:

- Gradebook - overall NC WISE module allowing teachers to enter and calculate student’s grades
- Spreadsheet - main screen of Gradebook
- Marks/Grade - used interchangeably to note a student's grade on a particular assignment or a grade that appears on the report card
- Save - use the
 button (usually located in the lower right-hand corner) to save changes
- Assessment - individual assignment (ie, Chapter 1 test)


## Setup

From TAM Start Screen, click Setup Options


Select Preferences


## My Options



## The above screenshot shows the recommended default settings for all selections.

1. Mark Calculation Method: Total Points or Weighted Percentages

It is recommended you select Total Points as this is the more traditional method. Please see the Appendix for a more detailed explanation of these options.
Note: You CANNOT make changes to this after you begin creating Assessments.
a. Total Points uses the point value of the Assessment as one way to weight the assessment. In other words, a test worth 100 points counts twice as much as a 50-point quiz.
b. Weighted Percentages ignores the point value of an assessment and averages everything together using the percentage value of the assignment. If a student received 40 out of 50 on a quiz, the value used to make Gradebook calculations is $80 \%$.
2. Posting Type: Report Cycle (Required)
3. Use Assessment Weights: enables teacher to weight certain assessments more than others
4. Use Assessment Type Weights: enables teacher to weight Assessment Types (ie, Classwork, Homework, Tests, etc.)
5. Use Category weights: enables teacher to weight Categories
6. Use Report Cycle weights: must be checked
7. TAVG\% included in weight (affects Spreadsheet and Progress Report):
a. If checked, the TAVG\% column in the Spreadsheet displays an overall average for the course no matter which Reporting Period is selected at the top of the screen. (Includes Report Cycle Weight and all other levels of weighting--exactly what a Final Mark would include)
b. If not checked, the TAVG\% column in the Spreadsheet displays the Mark average only for the Reporting Period selected at the top of the screen In other words, the TAVG\% column displays what would appear on the Report Card if marks were posted for the selected reporting period today. (Does not include Report Cycle Weight, but does include Category and Type weighting)
8. Default Order of Assessments by Due Date: Choose Ascending or Descending sort order
9. Numeric Score Default: Score max of newly created Assessments will populate with this value. This is just a default value; you may change it
10. Failure Threshold: 70 is the Wake County standard
11. Default Display Assessment: not recommended to set below 30
12. Delete Assessments at Year End: must be checked
13. Other Settings: read each option carefully (recommendation is to have all checked)

## My Preps



## Select the My Preps tab.

- If you used Gradebook last year, your preps will copy over. To edit, select prep and click Detail.
- To enter a new prep, click Add



## 1. Enter Description of Prep

## 2. Prep Classes

## a. Click Select Classes



Note: Classes that are already assigned to other preps will be checked and the course will be in blue. Leave those classes checked.
b. Place check by classes for that prep
c. Click OK
3. Prep Classes Report Cycles - See Appendix for EOC and non-EOC options NOTE: Must be set for each class - highlight each Prep Class and set weights for that class

- Click Calculated Report Cycles

- Select dropdown to view Calculated Report Cycles
- Enter Weights for each Calculated Report Cycle
- Save

NOTE: If you do not see the correct Report Cycles listed in your dropdown, please see your school Gradebook Contact or your Data manager.
4. Prep Category - free form field - type "General" or "Default" with a weight of 1 and check box under Default? (See your Gradebook Contact for alternate setup)
5. Prep Assessment Types
a. Click Add

b. Under the Assign? column, check Assessment Types you want to use
c. Click OK

| Prep Assessment types <br> Description |  | Default <br> Weight |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Assessment Type |  |  |  |$|$

d. Assign weights - (\%'s can be used for both the Total Points Method and the Weighted Percentages Method) be sure that the total \% equals 100
e. Default Assessment Type: (Optional) Place a check by the Assessment Type that you will use the most - when you create a new assessment, this will default in Assessment Type but can be changed
6. Click the Save button

## Spreadsheet (Gradebook)

Return to Main Start Screen of TAM


Select Course you want to work with (uncheck Today's Classes if necessary) Select Spreadsheet


This screen is the main Gradebook Screen. The Spreadsheet displays students and Assessments according to the values you have selected in the dropdowns at the top of the screen. The TAVG\% and AVG\% columns show a cumulative grade, depending on what options you have selected.

From this screen, you can

- View students and their assessments
- Enter student marks
- Post Marks to Report Card
- Print the Spreadsheet
- Navigate to:
- Add Assessments
- Enter Marks and Comments
- View or Change your Assessments


## Add Assessment

- Select the Class you wish to work with from the dropdown located in the upper left hand side of the screen
- Select the Reporting Term that your Assessment will be attached to
- Click Add Assessment to create a new test, quiz, homework assignment, etc.

- Enter a Name for the Assessment
- Enter a Short Name-this will display as column headings on the Spreadsheet, as well as in various reports so make sure it is unique (Quiz1, Quiz2, etc).
- Score Type -will almost always be Numeric Mark (there are options for Pass/Fail Marks and Alpha Marks if necessary)
- Score Max—remember this will default to what you have set in your Preferences can be edited here if you like
- Weight-if you wish to use Assessment level weighting, you may use a whole number or a decimal to assign a weight relative to other Assessments OF THIS TYPE (for example, if you want this particular test to count twice as much as other tests, enter 2 for Weight; conversely, for this test to count half as much, enter .5)
- Choose a Category and Assessment Type from the dropdowns (again, these are populated with the Category or Type you marked as Default on the Prep Detail screen but can be edited here if you like)
- Assign Date-when was this Assessment given to the student? You may access the calendar by clicking the " + " button. Remember an assessment cannot be Assigned or Due on a non-school day.
- Due Date-when is the last day to turn in this Assessment?
- You may leave the Create Date at the default date.
- Extra Credit Assessment-check if you want ALL the points for this assessment to be added to Points Earned but not Points Attempted for the purposes of Report Card and Final Marks calculation. Do not check this box if this assessment is a test that will have extra credit questions at the end. (See Appendix for explanation of how Extra Credit Assessments are calculated.)
- Post to Parent Assistant Date is used by the SAM Progress Report module. Enter the date you would like this assessment to post to the report-typically your school's Interim Report date.
- Standardized Test Scores are not used in Wake County. Leave unchecked.
- Narrative - free-form text field where you can enter comments about the Assessment which may display on some reports depending on the options you have selected. This might be a good place for comments such as "This test covers chapters 3, 4, and 5 of World History in a Nutshell."
- Save

After you Save, a couple of options are available on this screen:

- Add clears the screen so you can begin creating a new Assessment right away
- Copy functions in relatively the same way, but leaves the Type, Category and Dates from your last Assessment (it "copies" some of the data to a new assessment)
- Enter Marks/Comments takes you right to the Enter Marks screen so you can begin entering marks for the Assessment you just created
- Cancel ends the Add Assessment process
- Add this Assessment to Other Classes allows you to attach this Assessment to other classes within the same prep (see screenshot and additional steps below)

- You can enter the Assign Date, Due Date, and Reporting Term manually for each class if you wish, OR...
- If you want the Assign Date, Due Date, and Reporting Term to be the same for all the classes, click Copy Selected Info to All. This will only copy the info for classes in the same semester (so you do not have a due date of August for a second-semester class that starts in January). If you have classes in different semesters:
o Click Copy Info... to copy to the first semester
o Check the box beside the first $2^{\text {nd }}$ Semester class
o Fill in the Assign Date, Due Date, and Reporting Term for that class
o Click Copy Info again to copy the current data to all the other $2^{\text {nd }}$ Semester classes
- Save


## Entering Marks for Assessments

You may Enter Marks using the Spreadsheet screen, the Enter Marks/Comments screen or the Condensed Mark Entry screen. All of these options are available from the Spreadsheet screen and each is briefly described below.

The Single button on the START screen will also take you directly to the Enter Marks/Comments screen.

## Spreadsheet:



- Select the appropriate Class and Reporting Term from the corresponding dropdowns. (If you have lots of Assessments, you may want to further filter this screen using the Category or Assessment Types dropdowns.)
- Enter the appropriate Mark directly on the Spreadsheet using your Tab, Enter, or arrow keys to navigate from field to field; or you can use your mouse to click in the appropriate field.
- Save


## Enter Mark/Comments Screen:



- Select the Class, Reporting Term and Assessment from the dropdowns at the top
- Use the Arrow key to navigate down the list and enter Marks
- You may enter Comments if you wish for any student for any Assessment. These comments will appear on the Progress Report, but NOT on the Report Card. Highlight the student you want to enter the Comment for and click the Edit Comment button in the bottom right section of the screen.
- At the bottom of the screen, the Copy First Mark Down and Copy First Comment Down function exactly like they sound: Whatever data is in the very first field (the Mark/Comment for the first student in the class) will get copied to the rest. You may go back and change individual marks if necessary
- The Late checkbox is for information only and displays on the Academic Progress report as well as some other reports.
- The Exempt checkbox affects Mark Calculation: If you mark a student as Exempt on a particular Assessment, that Assessment will not count towards Points Earned or Points Attempted when calculating Report Card or Final Marks (whether you have given the student a Mark for that Assessment or not)


## Condensed Mark Entry screen:



- Select the Class, Reporting Term and Assessment from the dropdowns at the top
- Use the Arrow keys to move up and down, and the Tab key to move across the screen.


## View/Change Assessment

There are times when it is necessary to view and change or delete an assessment. For example, you may want to change the name of an assessment or remove an assessment from a class.

Click View/Change Assessment



- Use the dropdowns at the top to filter this list
- The information in the columns is read-only
- To Remove an Assessment from this class, highlight the Assessment and click the Remove... button. This does not delete the Assessment but "un-attaches" it from a particular class.
- You may navigate to the Change Assessment screen by clicking the button at the bottom.


## Post to Report Card

You may Post to the Report Card any time you wish. Every time you Post Marks for a particular Reporting Period, whatever you previously posted for that Reporting Period is replaced with the new calculation. . Keep in mind, the new calculation will take into account Marks that were added or changed since the last posting.


From the Spreadsheet, click the yellow Post Marks to Report Card button. The popup reminds you which Reporting Period you are posting. Click Yes to continue or No to exit without Posting.


You are then presented with another popup prompting you to select Numeric or Alpha posting. Most schools use Alpha posting, but be sure to check with your school administration.



- T.A. column - actual numeric value the Gradebook has calculated based on the marks and all weighting
- Post column - converts the numeric Mark to an alpha Mark if you have chosen alpha posting, or rounds to a whole number according to the option you have selected in your Preferences
- Making changes: from this screen, you can manually change the posted grade (for example change a "B" to an "A"). Manually changed marks will show in burgundy.
- This page can be printed by clicking on the Printer icon.
- After you have Saved and exited, you will be presented with the following popup:


Click Continue.

NOTE: You must repeat this process for each class. Posting is done on a class by class basis.

## Posting "Calculated" Marks

In the last section you learned how to post your Quarter Marks. If your school is using the Multiple Calculated Reporting Periods enhancement, the next step is posting those marks that are calculated from other report cycle marks, such as Semester Marks or Final Marks. You must set the weighting to use in the calculation as shown on page 6.

- Go to the Reporting Term Marks screen (button is beside the yellow Post to Report Card button)


- Use the Calculated Report Cycles dropdown in the upper right of the screen to select which reporting term you wish to calculate
- Click the Calculate button in the lower left of the screen
- You will be presented with the same pop-ups you saw while posting to the report card (Alpha/Numeric choice and warning messages)
- The last pop-up should be the confirmation message "Marks were successfully posted!"
- Click Continue.
- Save

You should now see the calculated mark in the appropriate column. This process calculates the mark and posts to the report card.

NOTE: You must repeat this process for each class. Posting is done on a class by class basis.

## Printing Progress Reports (Interims)

On TAM Start Screen, click Reports.


Select Progress Report.



- Select Classes: Use dropdown to select class (it is better to do one class at a time instead of multiple)
- Report Cycle: Use ? button to select
- Filter by Category and/or Assessment Type if you wish
- Select Student: Leave blank for all students or select single / multiple students
- Assessment From Date/To Date: enter range (based on Assessment Due Date), or leave blank to return all dates
- Use the various checkboxes to include/exclude the related information, including Attendance data
- The Message to Parent is a free-form field and will print on the Progress Report for every student you have selected above
- Do not include Version Number
- It is recommended to print the report in Landscape format.


## Sample Progress Report

Boxes checked on Parameter Form:

- Group by Assessment Type
- Include Summary by Assessment Type
- Include Weight



## Appendix

## Mark Calculation

This is an overview of the calculation process. For a more detailed explanation of the calculations, please see your Gradebook Contact.

The Gradebook uses the combination of Score Max and Assessment Weight and your choice of formula to calculate marks within a certain Category or Type. These groups form a hierarchy with marks being calculated at the lower level (Assessment Types) and fed up to the next higher level (Assessment Categories).

The Gradebook hierarchy is (from lowest to highest):

- Assessment Weight
- Assessment Type Weight
- Category Weight
- Report Cycle Weight


## Assessment Weighting: Total Points vs. Weighted Percentages

The first equation is described as Weighted Percentages (Eq1). It is named as such because each mark in a group is converted to a percentage and then each Assessment Weight is applied to it as a percentage of Total weight. Total weight is calculated by adding together all of the weights within a certain level (see below for a specific calculation example).

$$
\left.\left[\begin{array}{lll}
\frac{\text { MARK EARNED }}{\text { MAXSCORE }} & \times \frac{\text { WEIOHT }}{\text { TOTALWEIGHT }}
\end{array}\right] * k \quad 100\right]+\underset{\substack{\text { Extia } \\
\text { Credit }}}{\text { E }}
$$

To get a feel for how this equation works, consider the following:

- The Max Score has no effect on the relative 'value' of the mark; when calculating the final mark, a score of 40 out of 50 is mathematically the same as an 80 out of 100 because each mark is converted to a Percentage before being averaged together with other marks.
- If we want to make an Assessment a higher relative 'value', we must assign a higher Assessment Weight to this assessment.
- So Assessment Weighting is instrumental in ascribing relative value to an assessment.

The second equation is described as Total Points (Eq2). The focus here is on the actual Marks. Weight is applied directly to the Mark Earned and to the Max Score.


Consider the following about the above equation:

- The Max Score can be used to ascribe relative 'value' to an assessment.
- The actual value of the Mark Earned and the Max Score impacts the Final Mark calculation.
- Assessments with higher Max Scores have a greater impact on the Final Mark calculation.

Let us now take a detailed look at the calculation of marks for an Assessment Type called "Tests" with 3 assessment instruments as shown below.

| Assessment | Assessment Weight | Student Mark | Max Score |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Assign 1 | 2 | 30 | 50 |
| Assign 2 | 3 | 15 | 20 |
| Assign 3 | 1 | 25 | 60 |
|  | Total Weight: 6 |  |  |

## Weighted Percentages:

Using the above numbers and the formula below, the calculation is as follows:
Note: Value of Assignment = (Student Mark / Max Score) * (Assessment Weight / Total Weight)

Tests $=[($ value of Assign $1+$ value Assign $2+$ value of Assign 3) $] * 100$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& =\{[(30 / 50) *(2 / 6)]+[(15 / 20) *(3 / 6)]+[(25 / 60) *(1 / 6)]\} * 100 \\
& =\{0.2+0.375+0.07\} * 100 \\
& =64.5 \% \text { for Tests }
\end{aligned}
$$

## Total Points:

Using the same numbers above and the formula below, the calculation is as follows:
Note: Weighted value of Earned Marks for Assignment = (Student Mark * Assessment Weight)

Tests $=\{[($ Weighted value of Earned Marks for Assign $1+$ Weighted value of Earned Marks for Assign $2+$ Weighted value of Earned Marks for of Assign 3) / [(Weighted value of Score Max for Assign $1+$ Weighted value of Score Max for Assign $2+$ Weighted value of Score Max for of Assign 3)]\}*100

$$
\begin{aligned}
& =\{[(30 * 2)+(15 * 3)+(25 * 1)] /[(50 * 2)+(20 * 3)+(60 * 1)]\} * 100 \\
& =\{[60+45+25] /[100+60+60]\} * 100 \\
& =\{130 / 220\} * 100 \\
& =59.1 \% \text { for Tests }
\end{aligned}
$$

## Extra Credit Calculations

If you choose to make an Assessment "Extra Credit", here are the calculation methods. We will use the previous examples of the test grades and Extra Credit value of 5.

## Total Points:

Tests $=\{[($ Weighted value of Earned Marks for Assign $1+$ Weighted value of Earned Marks for Assign $2+$ Weighted value of Earned Marks for of Assign $3+$ Extra Credit value) / [(Weighted value of Score Max for Assign $1+$ Weighted value of Score Max for Assign $2+$ Weighted value of Score Max for of Assign 3)]\}*100
$=\{[(30 * 2)+(15 * 3)+(25 * 1)+5] /[(50 * 2)+(20 * 3)+(60 * 1)]\} * 100$
$=\{[60+45+25+5] /[100+60+60]\} * 100$
$=\{135 / 220\} * 100$
$=61.36 \%$ for Tests

## Weighted Percentages:

Tests $=\left[\left(\right.\right.$ value of Assign $1+$ value Assign $2+$ value of Assign 3) ${ }^{*} 100+($ EC Value $/ \#$ of Assessments)

$$
\begin{aligned}
& =\{[(30 / 50) *(2 / 6)]+[(15 / 20) *(3 / 6)]+[(25 / 60) *(1 / 6)]\} * 100+(5 / 3) \\
& =\{0.2+0.375+0.07\} * 100+1.67 \\
& =66.17 \% \text { for Tests }
\end{aligned}
$$

## Reporting Period Weights

1) $\mathbf{3 6 \text { Week }}$

Non-EOC class, Final Exam (typically only High Schools)

| Semester 1 | Semester 2 | Final Mark |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $1^{\text {st }}$ Quarter: 50 | $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter: 50 | $1^{\text {st }}$ Semester: 40 |
| $2^{\text {nd }}$ Quarter: 50 | $4^{\text {th }}$ Quarter: 50 | $2^{\text {nd }}$ Semester: 40 |
|  |  | Exam: 20 |

2) 36 Week

## EOC class

| Semester 1 | Semester 2 | Final Mark |
| :---: | :---: | :--- |
| $1^{\text {st }}$ Quarter: 50 | $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter: 50 | $1^{\text {st }}$ Semester: 37.5 |
| $2^{\text {nd }}$ Quarter: 50 | $4^{\text {th }}$ Quarter: 50 | $2^{\text {nd }}$ Semester: 37.5 |
|  |  | Exam: 25 |

3) 36 Week

Non-EOC class, no Final Exam (only Middle Schools)

| Semester 1 | Semester 2 | Final Mark |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $1^{\text {st }}$ Quarter: 50 | $3^{\text {rd }}$ Quarter: 50 | $1^{\text {st }}$ Semester: 50 |
| $2^{\text {nd }}$ Quarter: 50 | $4^{\text {th }}$ Quarter: 50 | $2^{\text {nd }}$ Semester: 50 |

4) 18 Week

Non-EOC class, Final Exam (typically only High Schools)
Final Mark
$1^{\text {st }}$ Quarter: 40
$2^{\text {nd }}$ Quarter: 40
Exam: 20
5) 18 Week EOC Class

| Final Mark |
| :--- |
| $1^{\text {st }}$ Quarter: 37.5 |
| $2^{\text {nd }}$ Quarter: 37.5 |
| Exam: 25 |

6) 18 Week

Non-EOC class, no Final Exam (only Middle Schools)

| Final Mark |
| :---: |
| $1^{\text {st }}$ Quarter: 50 |
| $2^{\text {nd }}$ Quarter: 50 |

