

## TEST CORRECTIONS AND THE QUARTERLY EXAM

The 2016-17 school year will usher in a few important changes from 7<sup>th</sup> grade, most notably the way test corrections will be handled, the removal of the voluntary retest opportunity, and the implementation of a mandatory Quarterly Exam.

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### OLD TEST PROCEDURES (no longer in effect)

In the 2015-16 school year, students were allowed to complete test corrections and earn half credit back for each correct correction. This allowed students to make up significant ground if they earned a poor grade on a test.

Students were to copy the question, give the correct letter answer, tell why they got the question wrong, and what they will do to avoid the error in the future.

Students also had the option to retest any test they wanted, provided they completed the test corrections for that test in time (one week from when the test was returned). The retest grade would replace the test corrections grade if it was higher.

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### NEW TEST PROCEDURES (Starting August 1, 2016)

This year, **test corrections will no longer count for credit** toward the test grade, so study well the first time! You may still make corrections on any test grade below 100%. Test corrections, however, are necessary as a prerequisite for a new way to improve a student's grade.

This year, students will be required to copy the question, **write the full correct answer (letter and answer wording), and tell why it is correct using evidence from notes.**

**Students also must get the ORIGINAL test paper signed by a parent/guardian** in order for test corrections to be counted as complete!

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### THE QUARTERLY EXAM (QE)

This year, we are going to offer **a new way to improve the lowest test score: the Quarterly Exam (QE)**. At completion of a quarter's unit(s) of study, students will be given a QE (this means that the exam **may not be given as the calendar says a quarter should end**, since some units are designed to be taught over two consecutive quarters). This exam will serve two purposes: as a summative evaluation of what students should have learned, and as a replacement for the old retest opportunity.

It is important to note that **the Quarterly Exam can actually count as TWO grades**. First, it will appear in the gradebook as its own test (major) grade. Second, it can replace the *one lowest* grade from all tests given during that quarter's unit(s) of study with the QE's grade (so essentially, the QE grade can be added into a student's grade twice).

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**Test corrections allow the Quarterly Exam grade to replace the one lowest test grade**, but students have to have first completed and turned in test corrections for that test within one week of receiving their score for that test. Students may not wait until right before the QE, for example, to turn in test corrections on a test score received a month ago in order to have the QE replace that test grade.

**Here's an example to illustrate what the test corrections and Quarterly Exam are going to do.** Let's say Gru earns an 83% on his QE. This grade will count in the gradebook as the "Quarterly Exam" (major grade), even if Gru has done no test corrections. If Gru's lowest test grades are 59% and 82%, and Gru only completes and turns in test corrections on the 82%, then that is the grade that will be replaced by the QE, and the 59% will still stand.

Please note that **the QE grade will not replace a higher score**, even if it is the lowest score a student earned on all tests. For example, let's say Gru's lowest score is 86% when we look at all Gru's unit tests that the QE covers, and Gru earns an 84% on the QE. The 86% will not be replaced (but the 84% will still be entered as the "Quarterly Exam" grade).

### QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS ABOUT THE NEW PROCEDURES?

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