Dear RRHS Parents:

Powerschool Parent Portal gives parents and 6th-12th grade students access to real-time information including attendance, grades, and assignments. Students can keep up with assignments, parents can track their child’s progress, and teachers can more easily share information about student progress with parents and students.

Some teachers assign and post grades to PowerSchool at different times. Some may give grades to their students’ everyday and some may give far fewer grades during the marking periods. This is up to each teacher and depends upon their grading system.

There are many factors that determine how soon a teacher can assess and return assignments. Essays, research papers, and tests take longer to grade than a quiz. Coaching, club sponsorships, and family commitments can also affect turnaround time, as well as a teacher's student load. All teachers do their best to grade their students and communicate their progress in a timely manner.

Many teachers use categories such as assessment and practice to organize and give different weights to grades; how they weight them is based on the content they teach. Teachers share with students how they grade at the beginning of each course.

Grades can also change during the course of a day. The student may have not turned in the assignment but brings it by during lunch, they may have corrected errors and turned it in for a better grade, or the teacher could have made a simple mistake in entering. Since the powerschool app is in real time this can be quite frustrating seeing grades go up and down all day. The notifications that you have turned on can alert you multiple times during the day. Our suggestion is that you turn those notifications off and pick a time during the week to check your student’s grades together.

From one parent, “I have a son in 10th grade and I choose to open the app and check every Friday when we both get home from work and school. This has reduced the amount of stress in our household. We decided turning off those notifications was the best thing for our family.”

As always you may contact teachers by e-mail or request a phone call or meeting at any time if you have questions about their grading practices.

Thank you,

Sherri Carver, Principal