

A Parent's/Student's Guide to PowerSchool (updated 4-2024)

Let's get started!

1. First, go to the **PowerSchool student/guardian website:**

<https://westbranch.powerschool.com>

You can also access the website through our district website

www.west-branch.k12.ia.us and click on the Menu in the top right corner.

Go to Parents and click on the small triangle to bring the drop down menu and click on PowerSchool.

Staff Login

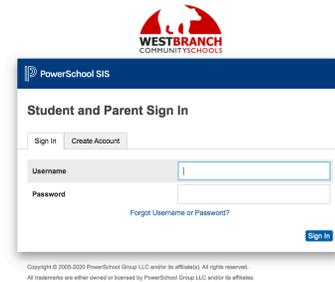
MENU



2. This will take you to the **Parent/Student login:**

This is the same username and password you use for registration. If you need help with your login information, please contact Ellen Gunderson or Amy Budreau in our building offices.

If you have multiple children, you will need to click on the name of your specific student.



3. You will have the option to select the **Grades and Attendance tab, Standards Grades tab, or the Standards Score tab.**

Grades and Attendance: [REDACTED]



4. Let's look at the **Grades and Attendance tab** first.

This provides attendance and current course information for each course.

Attendance By Class															
Exp	Last Week				This Week				Course	S1	J1	S2	Y1	Absences	Tardies
	M	T	W	H	F	M	T	W							
EB(A-B)									Fund of Oral Communication (KCC) Email Schwickerath, Miranda Mae - Rm: [i]	[i]				0	0
2(A-B)									Composition I (KCC) Email Gallagher, Elizabeth A - Rm: 25	[i]				0	0
3(A-B)									Sociology Email Hutcheson, Heath - Rm: 18	[i]				0	0
3(A-B)									Journalism 2 Email Krall, Karina K - Rm: 24	[i]				0	0
IS(A-B)									Instructional Support Email Gallagher, Elizabeth A - Rm: 25	[i]				0	0
4(A-B)									Physics Honors Email Cummings, Lynette L - Rm: 17	[i]				0	0

NOTE: Anything that is blue is a link to more information.

5. By clicking on the **blue teacher's name**, you will be taken to your personal email program to send an email to the selected teacher.

6. By clicking on the **[i]** under the grading period, you will be taken to the course score detail page that shows daily scores, missing work, and additional information about each course.

Western World Cultures 6 Exp. 1(1-6) - McElhinney, Kristin									
Teacher Comments:									
Section Description:									
PowerTeacher Pro Assignments									
Due Date	Category	Assignment	Flags	Score					
09/08/2017	Quiz	Reading Maps Quiz	[i] [d]	--/1	View				
	MSSS.16 - Using Geographic Tools			--					
09/07/2017	Classwork	Reading a Map Center Activities	[i]	--	View				
09/01/2017	Classwork	Chromebook Parent Sheet		--					
09/01/2017	Quiz	Latitude and Longitude Quiz	[i] [d] [check]	--	View				
	MSSS.16 - Using Geographic Tools			S					
08/31/2017	Classwork	Latitude & Longitude Crossword W.S.		--					
08/25/2017	Classwork	Paper Plate Activity		--					

NOTE: Anything that is blue is a link to more information.

Other information available on the Course Score Detail Page include:

Legend

1 - This final grade may include assignments that are not yet published, or may be the result of special weighting used by the teacher. Click to view additional information on special weighting.

Icons: - Standards | - Has Description | - Has Comment | - Collected | - Late | - Missing | - Exempt from Final Grade | - Absent | - Incomplete | - Excluded

7. Let's look at the Standards Score tab: This tab shows you all courses with assignment grades color coded so it is very easy to see what their grade is for each assignment and where they are for each standard before final grades are calculated at the end of the semester.

Standards Score

Quick Lookup Standards Grades **Standards Score**

Proficiency Scale: E = Expert S = Solid C = Competent N = Needs Relearning I = Insufficient Evidence Key: Not included in standard grade Select a Year: Show All Collapse All

- ▶ Algebra II
- ▶ Algebra II (2)
- ▶ American Hist
- ▶ American Hist (2)
- ▶ Astronomy
- ▶ Career Planning - 11
- ▶ English 11
- ▶ English 11 (2)
- ▶ J-Term Internship
- ▶ Principles of Animal Science(CASE)

8. Click on any particular class to look at assignments/grade: The ones with a (2) behind them represent 2nd semester of a year long class. If anything in red that needs to be redone and/or turned in (unless it is past the date of being able to do this).

▼ **English 11 (2)**

HSEng.R1 - Key Ideas & Details		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	S1	S2	
				C	E		S	
03/26/2024	Twelfth Night: Act One Open Book Quiz(🔒4-2)							E
03/25/2024	WebQuest: Twelfth Night(🔒4-1)							S
03/01/2024	"Death by Scrabble" short story packet(🔒3-7)							C
HSEng.R2 - Comprehension		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	S1	S2	
				E	E		E	
03/26/2024	Twelfth Night: Act One Open Book Quiz(🔒4-2)							E
03/01/2024	"Death by Scrabble" short story packet(🔒3-7)							S
02/26/2024	Ethos, Pathos, Logos open notes quiz(🔒3-4)							S
02/09/2024	Poetry Check-in (Full Poem)(🔒2-15)							E
02/08/2024	Poetry Autopsy (🔒2-15)							E
01/26/2024	"Haven't I Made a Difference?"questions 🔒 Feb. 1							E
HSEng.R3 - Citing Evidence		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	S1	S2	
				S	S		S	
03/25/2024	WebQuest: Twelfth Night(🔒4-1)							S
02/26/2024	Ethos, Pathos, Logos open notes quiz(🔒3-4)							S

9. Let's go back to the **Standards Grades** tab.

Quick Lookup Standards Grades

Show Standards with No Grades **Expand All** **Collapse All**

Current Sections

- 1(1-6) Western World Cultures 6 - 17-18 McElhinney, Kristin

Standards	Q1	Q2	S1	Q3	Q4	S2	Y1
MSSS.00 World Cultures <i>(No Grade Collected)</i>							
MSSS.16 Using Geographic Tools	S		S				S
- 2(1-6) Math 6 - 17-18 Gelhaus, Bill
- 3(1,4) Art 6 - 17-18 Mathis, Katherine T
- 3(2,5) Study Skills - 17-18 Olson, Jenni

NOTE: Anything that is blue is a link to more information.

This screen will show you the current final standard score for each course. This is the information that will show up on a report card at the end of each grading period.

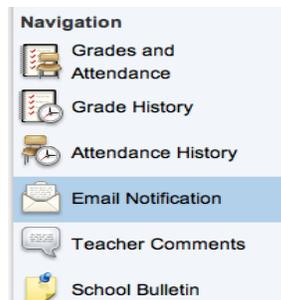
This final standard score is calculated using the Mean (average) for assignment scores.

Grade Scale **Add Grade**

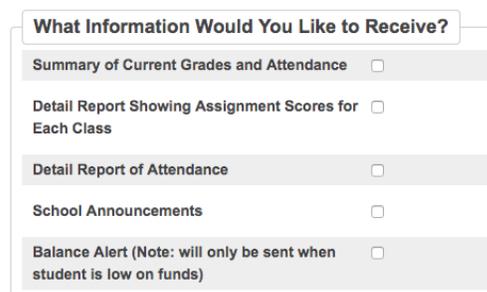
Grades		Teacher Gradebook Values			Color Levels		Action
Grade *	Description	Teacher Scale	Cutoff % *	Grade Value *	Edit		
E	Expert	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	90	100	Green (5)	<input type="checkbox"/>	-
S	Solid	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	80	85	Light Green (4)	<input type="checkbox"/>	-
C	Competent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	70	75	Yellow (3)	<input type="checkbox"/>	-
N	Needs Relearning	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	60	65	Red (1)	<input type="checkbox"/>	-
I	Insufficient Evidence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	0	0	Red (1)	<input type="checkbox"/>	-

Save

11. You have the ability to sign up for **email alerts**. Go to the left hand menu on the home screen.



12. From here, you can select the content and the frequency of your email requests:

A screenshot of a form titled "What Information Would You Like to Receive?". It contains five rows, each with a text label and a checkbox: "Summary of Current Grades and Attendance" (checkbox), "Detail Report Showing Assignment Scores for Each Class" (checkbox), "Detail Report of Attendance" (checkbox), "School Announcements" (checkbox), and "Balance Alert (Note: will only be sent when student is low on funds)" (checkbox).

NOTE: This option will not provide assignment score detail within the email. The emails will give you a “heads up” that information has been updated. You will still need to login to the website for full details.

West Branch High School uses standards referenced grading to calculate traditional letter grades for official transcripts (records of students’ course credits/grades).

For each **ASSIGNMENT SCORE** for a standard, PowerSchool assigns a value:

E = 100

S = 85

C = 75

N = 65

I = 0

These assignment scores are then AVERAGED together to determine your **FINAL STANDARD SCORE** using these cutoff scores:

E = 90

S = 80

C = 70

N = 1

For each **FINAL STANDARD SCORE** in a course, the standard score is converted to a number:

E = 100

S = 85

C = 75

N = 65

I = 0

***These are FINAL STANDARD SCORES - not individual assignment scores.

*******NOTE:** If a student has one or more final standard mark(s) of Need Relearning (N) or Insufficient Evidence (I) the student is **failing this class**. To meet the requirements of each class, students must be Competent (C) or better for all final standard marks for a class.

These numbers are then AVERAGED and reported as Traditional Letter Grades:

A = 90+

B = 80-89

C = 70-79

F = Below 70% (failing grade.)

Traditional Letter Grades are reported at the end of each SEMESTER. (The SEMESTER grade is an average of the Quarter One/Two and Quarter Three/Four grades.)

If you have any questions/concerns, please contact your building principal.