



**Arlington  
Public  
Schools**

**Instruction**



# About Me

## Maria-Jose Clinger

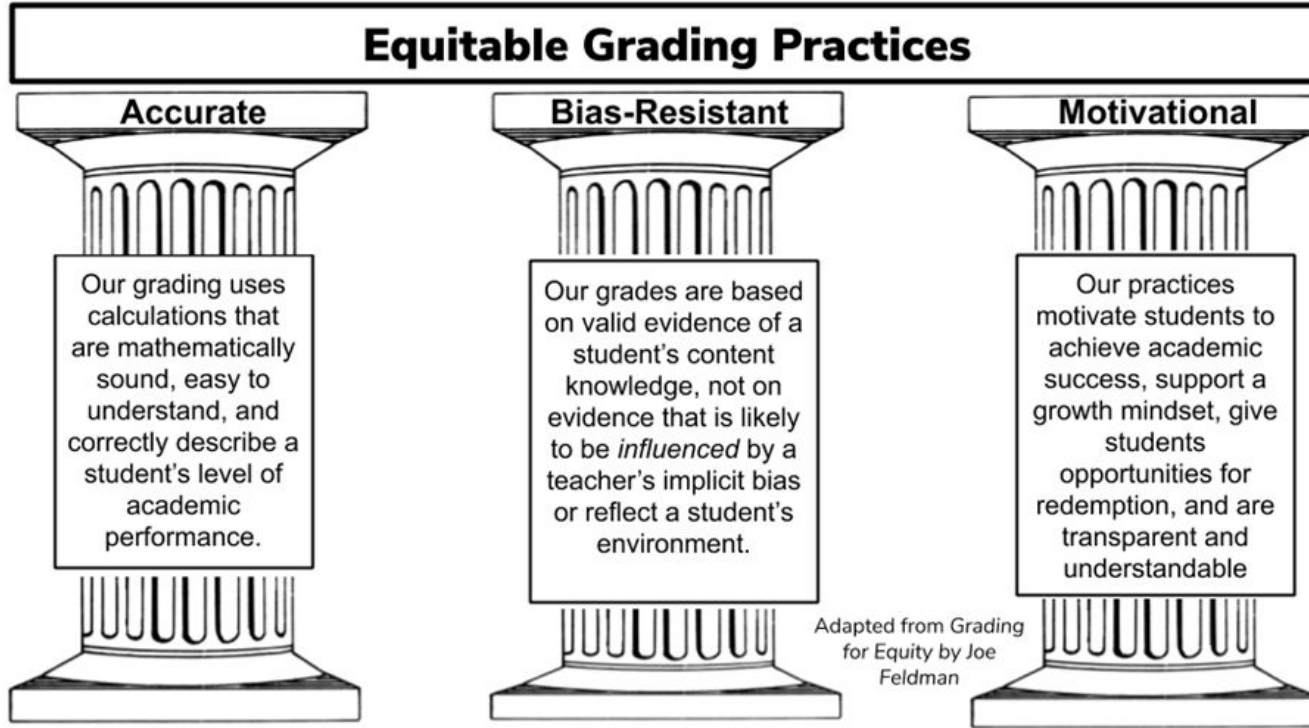
- My 24th year teaching!
- 14th year teaching Science
- Graduated from APS & JMU
- I'm from Ecuador
- I love to read, bake & travel



# APS Secondary Grading Policy & Implementation Updates

- The Arlington Public School Board adopted revisions to School Board Policy I-7.2.3.34 in June 2022
  - Policy I-7.2.3.34 Reporting Student Progress and Grades
- Superintendent Durán adopted Policy Implementation Procedures for Policy I-7.2.3.34 in June 2023
  - Policy Implementation Procedures I-7.2.3.34 PIP-2 Reporting Student Progress and Grades (Secondary)

# Equitable Grading Practices



# Updates to Grading Practices

Updated policy implementation procedures included the four following main changes to grading practices at the secondary level:

- Revised grade calculation procedures to minimize the impact of formative assessments
- Revised late work penalty procedures
- Addition of a retake/revision opportunity for all students
- Updated grade descriptors for A-E

# ACHS Grading Policy

- ACHS uses competency based grading.

- *“The most important characteristic of competency-based education is that it measures learning rather than time. Students progress by demonstrating their competence, which means they prove that they have mastered the knowledge and skills (called competencies) required for a particular course, regardless of how long it takes.”*

Dr. Robert Mendenhall, President, Western Governor’s University

# ACHS Grading Policy

- Each course has its own set of competencies linked to Virginia Standards of Learning.
- Progress towards course competencies will be indicated as follows: *insufficient evidence*, *developing*, *proficient*, and *highly proficient*.
- As the term progresses, students' mastery of the competencies progresses.
- By the end of the semester, students with no more than one competency with "insufficient evidence" or "developing" will receive credit for the course and a final letter grade.

# Environmental Science Overview

A decorative background featuring a stylized map of the United States. The map is rendered in light blue and green tones, with the landmasses outlined in a thin, light-colored line. The map is positioned in the upper right and lower right corners of the slide, with the rest of the background being a plain, light color.

- We will explore how we influence the Earth and Environment. Look at ways in which the Earth is changing
- Competencies: 10 (listed in Syllabus)
- Resources and materials: Textbook in class; CK-12 online resources; Discovery Education



# Earth-Space Overview

- We will explore Stars, Geology & the Universe
- Competencies: 11 (available in the Syllabus)
- Resources and materials: Textbook in class; CK-12; Explore Learning

# Biology Overview

- Learning about life, our body, and the living things within the environment
- Competencies: 10 competencies (listed on syllabus)
- Resources and materials: Use Canvas, textbooks in class & online resources from CK-12

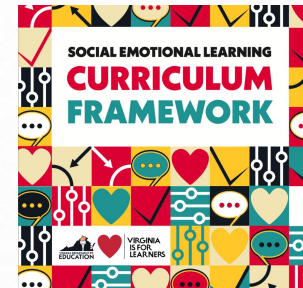
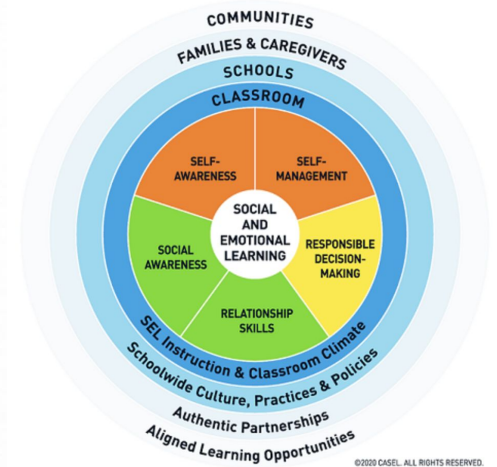
# Updates to Interim Progress Reports

The policy implementation procedures indicate that interim progress reports (IPRs) will no longer be generated by teachers at the midpoint of each quarter.

- Weekly automated message with grade summaries will be sent to parents/guardians starting in early September.
- This message will remind parents/guardians that detailed information on student progress can be found in ParentVue .

# Social Emotional Learning

- APS has set three **SEL priorities**:
  - Provide ongoing learning for all staff in SEL competencies and curricular resources
  - Provide students ongoing opportunities to learn and practice SEL
  - Prioritize regular, individualized outreach to students, families, and staff to continuously improve our support systems
- Aligned to 5 SEL competencies and curriculum frameworks outlined by VDOE
- ACHS will be utilizing Second Step as the SEL curricular resource
- [SEL 3 Signature Practices](#)
- SEL Survey (grades 3-12) in the fall and spring



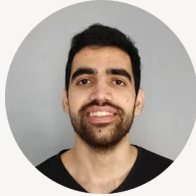


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Grades 9-12**

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# Contact Information

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