Using Standards-Based Grades in the Gradebook

30 minutes

**Description**

To track student progress in meeting learning standards, many schools are entering standards-based scores. These scores are entered for tasks performed within each assignment, alerting teachers of skills students are mastering, and those they need more help with.

As an elementary teacher, your entire gradebook might be based on standards scores.

As a secondary teacher, you might use a hybrid gradebook; you enter both traditional and standards scores.

After your Aspen system administrator creates the necessary reporting standards, rubrics, and rubric rating scales for your classes, you can align your assignments to reporting standards, and then enter scores.

Aspen automatically updates student Trend scores, which are calculated using the Power Law. A Trend score indicates how a student is progressing in meeting a standard.

Upon completion of this training, you will be able to enter and post assignment standards-based scores in your Aspen gradebook.

**Prerequisites**

none

**Participant Objectives**

- Create or view reporting standards.
- Attach reporting standards to assignments.
- Enter standards-based assignment scores.
Activities

- Answer questions in the Plan section to prepare to enter scores.
- Create a reporting standard, and view reporting standards created by your district.
- Create an assignment, and align it with reporting standards.
- Enter standard scores for each reporting standard for the assignment.

Resources

For more information on this lesson and to complete the Plan and Apply sections, refer to the resources listed below. These are available in Aspen from the Help menu > Videos > Teacher Gradebook. You can also access online Help from the Help menu.

Quick Reference Guides:

- Standards-Based Gradebook for Elementary Teachers
- Standards-Based Gradebook for Secondary Teachers

Videos

- Overview of Standards-Based Gradebook for Elementary Teachers
- Overview of Standards-Based Gradebook for Secondary Teachers
- Viewing Reporting Standards for Your Classes
- Creating Assignment Categories and Assignments in a Standards-Based Gradebook
- Entering and Viewing Standards Scores
Plan

Use the space provided to record your answers to the following questions.

1. Do you assess your students on the individual standards? Do you also enter traditional scores for assignments?

2. How do you organize your students’ standards scores? By student? By assignment? By standard?

3. Below, write the definitions of key terms used in standards-based scoring:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Power Law</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trend score</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Guided Exercises

Follow along with your Aspen trainer to practice the following skills. Mark the checkboxes as you complete each task to help you keep your place.

☐ 1. Create a reporting standard.

☐ 2. View a reporting standard your district created.

☐ 3. Create an assignment, and associate the appropriate reporting standard(s).

☐ 4. Click the **Single Assignment Entry** icon to enter scores for the assignment you associated reporting standards to.

☐ 5. Use **CTRL + D** to quickly enter the same score for all students.

☐ 6. Enter scores for a single student.

☐ 7. Enter scores for a single standard.

☐ 8. View and interpret trend scores for standards by standard or by student.
Apply

Now that you've participated in guided exercises standards-based grading, complete the following:

- Create an assignment, and align it to at least two standards. Enter student performance on the standards for that assignment.
Using Standards-Based Gradebook

Staff Name: ___________________________ Date: __________________

Use the following rating scale to assess your level of understanding of the learning outcomes covered in the lesson.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating Scale</th>
<th>Learning Outcomes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 I need more help.</td>
<td>Create new or view existing reporting standards.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Create and align assignments with reporting standards.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 I am comfortable doing this on my own.</td>
<td>Enter standards-based scores for assignments.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 I am proficient and can teach others.</td>
<td>View trend scores and averages.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes: