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# ASSESSMENT POLICY

Herbert A. Ammons Middle School  
International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program



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## Philosophy

Herbert A. Ammons Middle School recognizes that assessment is central to learning, providing meaningful feedback to students and teachers while guiding instructional practices. Effective assessment places students at the center of their learning, ensuring that it supports and measures growth over time. Assessments align with **IB MYP principles**, ensuring that they are **criterion-related, varied, and formative and summative in nature**.

Assessment in the MYP fosters student reflection, inquiry, and international-mindedness. A balanced assessment system integrates diverse formats to accommodate different learning styles, ensuring that assessments are **authentic, developmentally appropriate, and culturally relevant**.

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## Aims of Assessment in the MYP

Assessment at Herbert A. Ammons Middle School aims to:

- Support and encourage student learning through timely, constructive feedback.
- Inform, enhance, and improve the teaching process.
- Provide opportunities for students to demonstrate knowledge, skills, and conceptual understandings across disciplines.
- Promote student agency by encouraging self-reflection and goal setting.
- Emphasize application and transfer of learning in real-world contexts.
- Support the development of critical thinking, creative problem-solving, and interdisciplinary understanding.
- Reflect the international-mindedness of the IB by incorporating global perspectives and multilingual approaches.
- Align with the holistic nature of the MYP, fostering the development of the whole student.

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## IB MYP Assessment Framework

The MYP is built around **eight subject groups** and integrates **key concepts, related concepts, global contexts, and Approaches to Learning (ATL) skills** into its assessment structure.

## Global Contexts for Inquiry-Based Assessment

- **Identities and relationships**
- **Orientation in space and time**
- **Personal and cultural expression**
- **Scientific and technical innovation**
- **Globalization and sustainability**
- **Fairness and development**

MYP assessment emphasizes **criterion-based evaluation** rather than traditional numerical grading. **All assessments are guided by the published IB MYP subject-specific criteria**, ensuring consistency and equity.

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## Key Elements of MYP Assessment

### 1. MYP Assessment Criteria

Each subject in the MYP uses **four assessment criteria** with **eight achievement levels (0-8)**:

- **Criterion A:** Knowledge and Understanding
- **Criterion B:** Investigating/Developing Skills
- **Criterion C:** Communicating/Producing/Performing
- **Criterion D:** Thinking Critically/Reflecting/Evaluating

Teachers provide **detailed rubrics** that align with these IB MYP criteria and communicate expectations clearly to students.

### 2. Types of Assessments

To ensure a **balanced assessment approach**, Herbert A. Ammons Middle School incorporates various assessment types:

- **Baseline assessments** to gauge prior knowledge.
- **Formative assessments** (quizzes, reflections, exit tickets) for ongoing learning.
- **Summative assessments** (projects, essays, performance tasks) to measure understanding.
- **IB MYP interdisciplinary unit assessments** connecting multiple subject groups.
- **Self-assessment and peer assessment** to develop metacognition.
- **Digital portfolios** showcasing student growth and achievement over time.

### 3. MYP Personal and Service Learning Connections

- **Service as Action:** Students complete community-based projects linked to learning.
- **8th Grade Service and Action Project (SAC):** A culminating requirement for all students.

- **IB Learner Profile Reflections:** Students document personal growth in their portfolios.
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## Assessment Reporting and Communication

Regular communication ensures transparency between students, parents, and teachers. Herbert A. Ammons Middle School provides:

- **MYP Progress Report Cards** issued twice a year.
  - **Miami-Dade County Public Schools Report Cards** (quarterly).
  - **Schoology** for real-time grading updates.
  - **Parent conferences** to discuss progress and support learning.
  - **Student reflection opportunities** embedded in assessments.
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## Grading and Standardization

While IB MYP assessments are criterion-based, the school aligns with **Miami-Dade County Public Schools grading scale:**

### Percentage Grade IB MYP Score Equivalent

90 – 100%	A	3.5 – 4.0
80 – 89%	B	2.5 – 3.49
70 – 79%	C	1.5 – 2.49
60 – 69%	D	1.0 – 1.49
0 – 59%	F	0.0 – 0.99

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## Final Statement

The **Assessment Policy** at Herbert A. Ammons Middle School aligns with IB MYP expectations, fostering an environment where assessment drives learning, promotes self-reflection, and prepares students for academic success and global citizenship.