Using PowerTeacher Pro to Determine Percentage Grades from Outcome Achievement Levels

In PowerTeacher Pro, rather than using overall assessment scores to calculate students' percentage grades, it is possible to use achievement level scores to generate their percentage grades. Begin by entering assessments and then linking outcomes to those assessments in your gradebook. Once you score those outcomes using achievement levels (1, 1+, 2, 2+, 3, 3+, 4), **Outcomes Grades** are calculated. Teachers can configure in PT Pro the number of achievement level scores that will be used to calculate the Outcomes Grades. For the purposes of this document, the three most recent outcome scores will be used to calculate the Outcomes Grades.

For example, a teacher has assessed a particular outcome in Mi'kmaw Studies 11 three different times. If the individual outcome scores for this outcome are: 2+, 3, and 3+, then the Outcomes Grade for this outcome would average to 3. During the reporting term, as you score different outcomes, the Outcomes Grades for all the assessed outcomes can be used to generate the students' overall percentage grades.



In the above example, Step 1 shows achievement level outcome scores for two different Mi'kmaw Studies outcomes – and each outcome has been assessed three times. The individual outcome scores from Step 1 generate Outcomes Grades for these two outcomes in Step 2.

Finally, these two Outcomes Grades are then averaged to calculate the student's percentage grade for Mi'kmaw Studies 11. As shown in Step 3, the student has a grade of 67% based on the average of the two Outcomes Grades (3 and 2+) that have been assessed so far. As additional outcomes are assessed, the students' grades for this course will be adjusted accordingly.

In order for PowerTeacher Pro to calculate percentage grades from outcome achievement levels, one critical step must be first configured in your gradebook. For teachers of Mathematics 7 & 8, refer to the guide entitled <u>Using</u> <u>PowerTeacher Pro to Determine Strand Percentage Grades from Outcome Achievement Levels (in Mathematics 7 and</u> <u>8)</u> since these courses report on individual strands rather than a single overall grade, and have the outcomes organized by strand.

INSCHOOL

inschool.ednet.ns.ca

PT Pro Configuration Step: Configure Traditional Grade Calculations

- 1. In PowerTeacher Pro, click **Settings**, then **Traditional Grades Calculations**.
- 2. Choosing one of your classes, click the edit button under Actions for a Reporting Term.
- 3. Set the Type to Outcomes Weighting.

Q1 Reporting Term for 1(A) 2(D) 3(B-C) MATHEMATICS 7										
Formula	Drop Low Scores									
Drop Low Scores does not apply to Outcomes Weighting.										
TYPE	an oldoo oldde	ATTRIBUTE	WEIGHT	PERCENT	0					
Outcomes W	eigh 🔽	Specific Weights	1	100%	-					
If the calculation type is outcomes and the attribute is either Specific Weighting or Specific Sum, weights must be defined for each outcome by the administrator at the course level.										

- 4. Set the Attribute to Specific Weights. You must set the Attribute to Specific Weights so that the strand grades will be properly calculated in PT Pro. If you do not set the Attribute to Specific Weights, student percentage grades will drop once you begin to enter scores for skills and learner profiles. Setting the Attribute to Outcomes Weighting ensures that only the assessed curriculum outcomes are being used in the calculation of the percentage grades.
- 5. Click **Save** to save changes.
- 6. Repeat the steps (or copy your grade calculations) to configure other reporting terms, or other classes in your gradebook.

As shown in the below example for Mi'kmaw Studies 11, two outcomes have been assessed multiple times, and **Outcomes Grades** have been calculated for each of these two outcomes (refer to the two highlighted columns to see the Outcomes Grades). Based on these Outcomes Grades, PowerTeacher Pro has calculated a percentage grade for this course.

Grades: Outcomes - Q1 1-2(A-H) MIKMAW STUDIES 11													
Class Grade: Q1	Calculation: Outcomes Weighting								Show More				
Grade Scale Type: (100 - 0)				(Grade: 81 81%	-							
STUDENT (19)		Q1	11.MKS11.0	11.MKS11.O.1	11.MKS11.O.2	11.MKS11.O.3	11.MKS11.O.4	11.MKS11.O.5	11.MKS11.O.6	>			
1. Berwald, Charley	81	81%			3				3+				
2. Boegel, Joey	83	83%			3+				3				
3. Chicharello, Kuba	77	77%			3				3				
4. Demayo, Lemuel	73	73%			3				3				
5. Flynn, Timotei	75	75%			3				3				
6. Franta, Ceejay	85	85%			3				3+				

Even though students may have identical Outcomes Grades, it does not mean that their percentage grades will be the same. For example, if you compare the percentage grades for Kuba and Lemuel, even though they both have identical Outcomes Grades for the two accessed outcomes, Kuba's grade is 77% while Lemuel's grade is 73%. The difference is due to the fact that the individual achievement level scores entered for Kuba are slightly different when compared to Lemuel's achievement level scores. So even though the Outcomes Grades may be the same for both students, since the achievement level scores used to generate those Outcomes Grades are different, it results in different percentage grades for the two students.