



EDUCATION IS A MOVEMENT FROM DARKNESS TO LIGHT

# Private Unaided Schools' Association-CBSE/ICSE (Regd.) (PUSA) Punjab

Regn. No. 217

(An association of Private Unaided Schools Affiliated to CBSE/ICSE in The State of Punjab)

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Ref: PUSA/GEN/2021/017

Dated: 18-06-2021

The Chairman,  
Central Board of Secondary Education  
Shiksha Kendra, 2, Community Centre,  
Preet Vihar, Delhi-110 092

Sub:-Plea for displaying grades in place of numerals on 10<sup>th</sup> Report-Card.

Our Association (PUSA) representing CBSE Schools of Punjab in all sincerity proffered (through our letter No.PUSA/GEN/2021/016 dt.07-06-2021) an uncontroversial suggestion favouring issuance of simple 'Pass' certificates sans detailed marks to would-be 10<sup>th</sup> Class pass-outs. This was to stay away from the din and dust of marks controversy likely to get whipped up once the schools are asked to cobble up the vestige of dubious result marks available with them. Evidently, the august Board authorities in their best wisdom have chosen to go the same way; may be instead of sounding authoritarian they wanted a School to have some say in the total scheme of things and also decided that a student should at least get the semblance of a good result-card in his hand at the end of his toil of more than a decade.

We appreciate the concerns in both the cases felt by the benevolent Board Authorities but with all the deference we wish to put forward some concerns experienced by our Schools when subject averages(out of 80 marks) of year 2020-21 are made to match the stipulated subject averages of historical year.

When such exercise is done to operationalize the given Policy parameter relating subjects, without tampering with formula applied therein, the resultant outcome in terms of marks shows a very big number of students ending up scoring 100 % marks. The number of students of a given school scoring 80 out of 80 is times more than the school ever produced in the past 10 years. Such a skewed result tends to present a distorted picture of the School's bonafide and makes it vulnerable to adverse criticism. Overwhelming chances are that a given School will never be able to produce such a spectacular result in decades to come. Suppose the so-called good result of a particular School in year 2020-21 shows as many

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100% scorers as 17 in English, 31 in Maths, 8 in Science, 20 in Social Science, 17 in Punjabi and 6 in IT, against its best-ever result of 1 in English, 10 in Maths, 2 in Science, 3 in Social Science, 5 in Punjabi and 2 in IT, imagine the damage the wayward result will cause to the credibility of the School. Such a result will proverbially hang around the neck of a school like a dead albatross for decades to come, the stigma of which it will never be able to erase from its fair name.

Alternately, if we resort to using discretion instead of applying uniform formula as stated above, to make the top-strata performers conform to past historical standard, the move is fraught with risk because the parent-student duo is bound to challenge even the most objectively applied discretion as favoritism or vendetta as a result of which the Principal/Teachers will be at the receiving end.

Kindly guide the Schools out of such a morass and if the situation has no solution, humble suggestion is to resort to alphabetical grading practiced in CCE system a few years from now, which has the benefit of moderating the oddities of numeral marking system.

With respectful regards

Yours sincerely,

Vinod Kumar Khurana(President)

S.Mohinder Singh(State Gen. Secretary)

Private Unaided Schools Association CBSE/ICSE Punjab(Regd.)