

# PlusPortals and your Gradebook: Beginning of School Year Set Up

---

In this resource guide you will:

1. Customize your PlusPortals Home Page
2. Customize your Gradebook views and Gradebook Settings

There are also Gradebook refreshers on:

1. Taking attendance
2. Adding Columns to your gradebook
3. Enter grades and annotations
4. Viewing student information
5. Exporting a blank gradebook to edit or print
6. Optional – creating custom views in your gradebook

## **NOTE:**

**Custom display names that were given to courses last year have carried over to this school year, regardless of who taught the course in the past.**

**Please review each course and the custom display names to ensure that the the custom names are either blanked out or updated.**

## PlusPortals Home Page Set Up

On logging in, you will land on your PlusPortals home page. It will show all the sections you teach during the first semester, second semester, and if you have a study hall/activity block.

In each tile, you will see the section name, course number/section number, meeting time, number of students, and a link to get to that section's gradebook. Resist the urge to click around for now, you will have the opportunity to in the future.

Today, we will manage your home page so that you will only see the current semester and we can rename the tile with the block number for easy reference. (The Rediker System uses letters to indicate first period, second period, etc. Note the reference chart on the next page that shows how each meeting time relates to our block schedule)

Gradebook	Class	Course/Section	Meeting Time	Students	Actions
	Algebra II 2231/04	2231/04	G	22	
	CCP Calc Block 8	0290/01	D	20	
	NDC College Calculus I 0290/02	0290/02	B	19	
	NDC College Calculus II 0291/02	0291/02	B	18	
	CCP Calc 2 Block 8	0291/01	D	19	
	HA2T Block 6	2232/01	A	17	
	HA2T Block 7	2232/02	F	18	
	HA2T Block 8	2232/03	H	19	
	Study Hall	STUD/035	P	22	

NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL



My Schedule



Marcia Pecek



Help



Logout

Change Password

Settings

Click on the arrow next to your name to access the drop down menu and select settings.

# Settings

## Course Sorting

Sort Courses:  Alphabetically  By Course Number  Custom Sort

## View which Course?

Only the selected courses will be shown in the TeacherPlus Portal

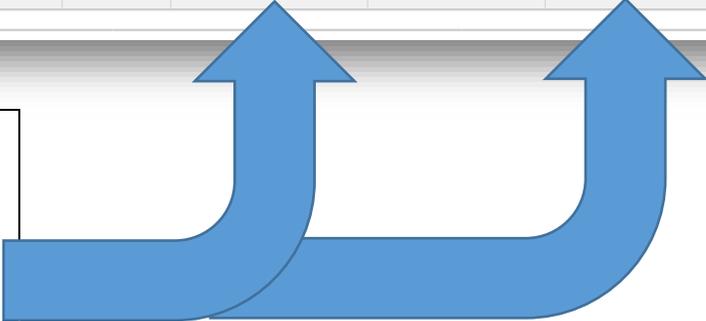
Course/Section	Course Name	Meeting Time	Length	Staff Visibility	Display Name for Staff	Parent/Student Visibility	Display Name for Parent/Student
2231/01	Alg II	A	ALL YEAR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	
2231/02	Alg II	D	ALL YEAR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	
2231/03	Alg II	E	ALL YEAR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	
2231/04	Alg II	G	ALL YEAR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	
0243/01	Calc 1A	H	SEM 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	
5243/01	Calc 1B	H	SEM 2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	
0290/01	Col Calc 1	B	SEM 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	
0291/01	Col Calc 2	B	SEM 2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	

A window will open up displaying all of your classes. Check the boxes for the classes you wish to see, uncheck for the ones you do not wish to see.

You can also re-order your courses here and how they will appear on your home page.

You can change the name of the course for yourself (parents and students will not see this)

**Please review and edit carefully as display names may have carried over from last year**



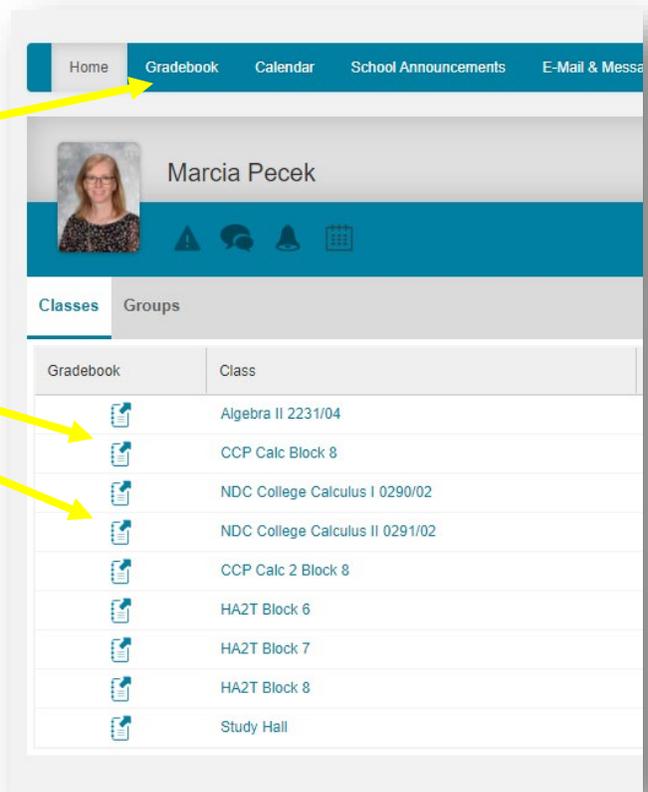
Blue		Gold	
Period Meeting Time	Block	Period Meeting Time	Block
A	Block 1	E	Block 5
B	Block 2	F	Block 6
P	Study Hall/Lion Time	P	Study Hall/Lion Time
C	Block 3	G	Block 7
D	Block 4	H	Block 8

## Accessing and Setting up your Gradebook

There are two places to access your gradebooks.

Click on the menu link "Gradebook"

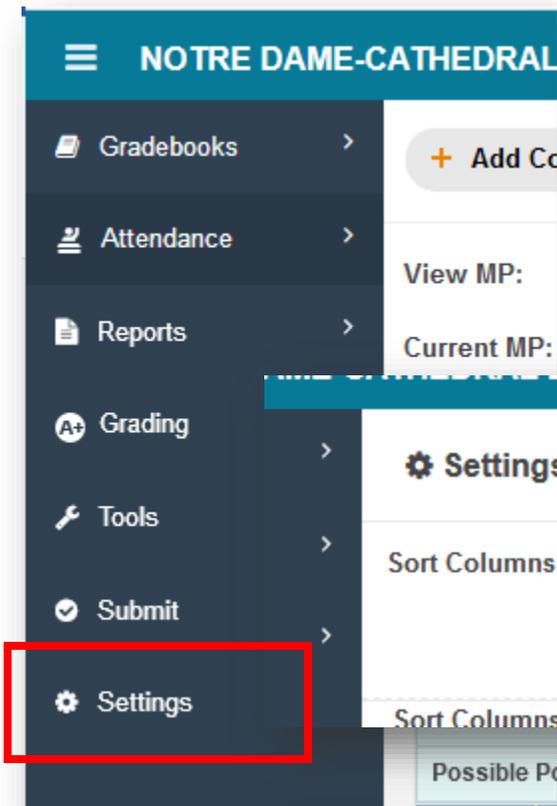
In the Gradebook column, click on the pop out icon.



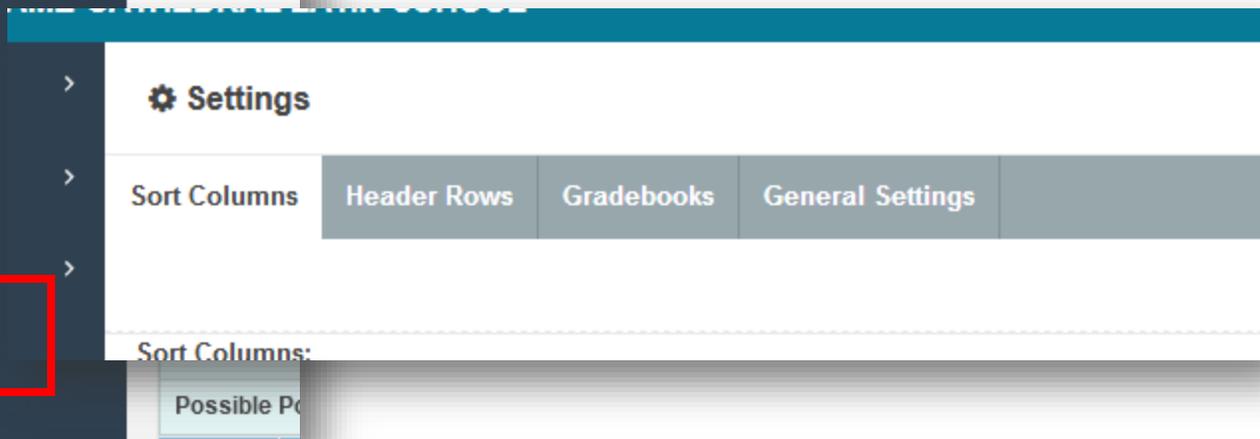
This is the view that you have when you click on either link. You can click from gradebook to gradebook very quickly at the top of the page.

The screenshot shows the main interface of the gradebook system for Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin School. The top navigation bar includes a hamburger menu icon and the school name. Below this, there is a sidebar with navigation options: Gradebooks, Attendance, Reports, Grading, Tools, Submit, and Settings. The main content area features a toolbar with buttons for Add Column, Undo, Annotation Mode, QE, SK/ST, ATT, and Seating Chart. Below the toolbar, there are sections for Shared Columns (0 of 0), Hidden Columns (0 of 0), Not Counted in Average (0 of 0), Template Options, and View MP (FIRST QUARTER). The current MP is also set to FIRST QUARTER. The main display area shows a gradebook for class 0243/01 Calc 1A H. It includes a table with columns for Name, Description, Category, Date, Possible Points, Mean, and Student Score/Avg. Count. The table has three rows of student data:

#	Name (22/22)	Q1 Avg.	Q1 Grade	Office Da...	Office Peri...	Class
1	Baker, Christian					
2	Bozak, James					
3	Clinger, Jacque...					



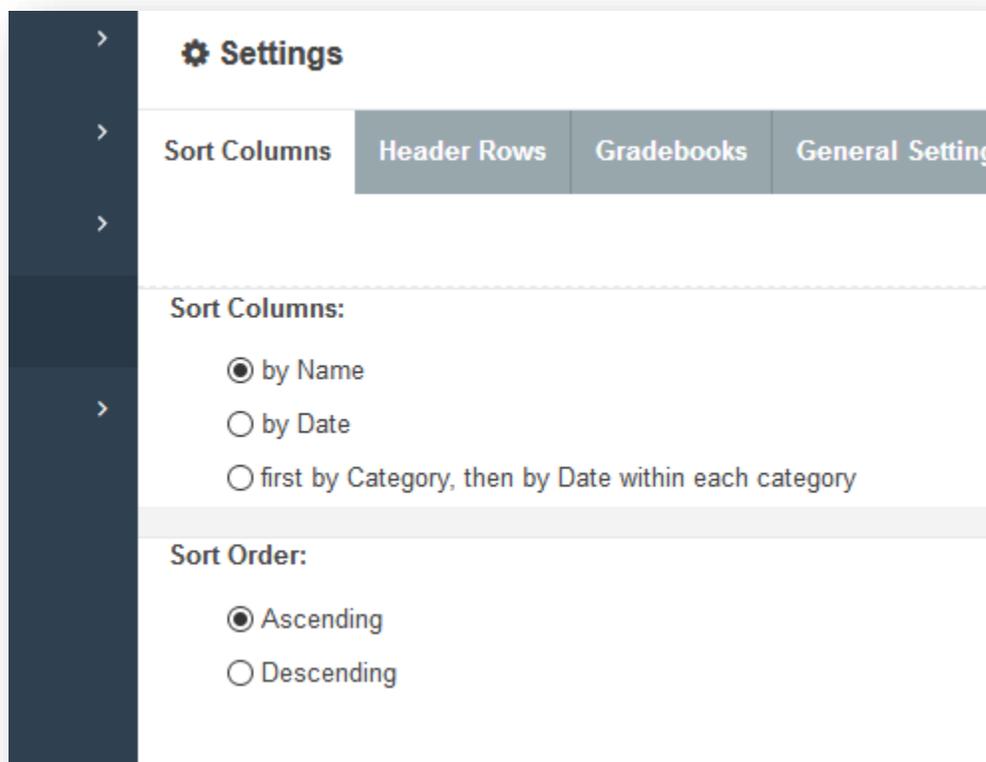
From the left hand menu, select Settings.



Under **Sort Columns**

Choose how you would like your columns sorted.

After making your selections, click Sort Now to save your changes

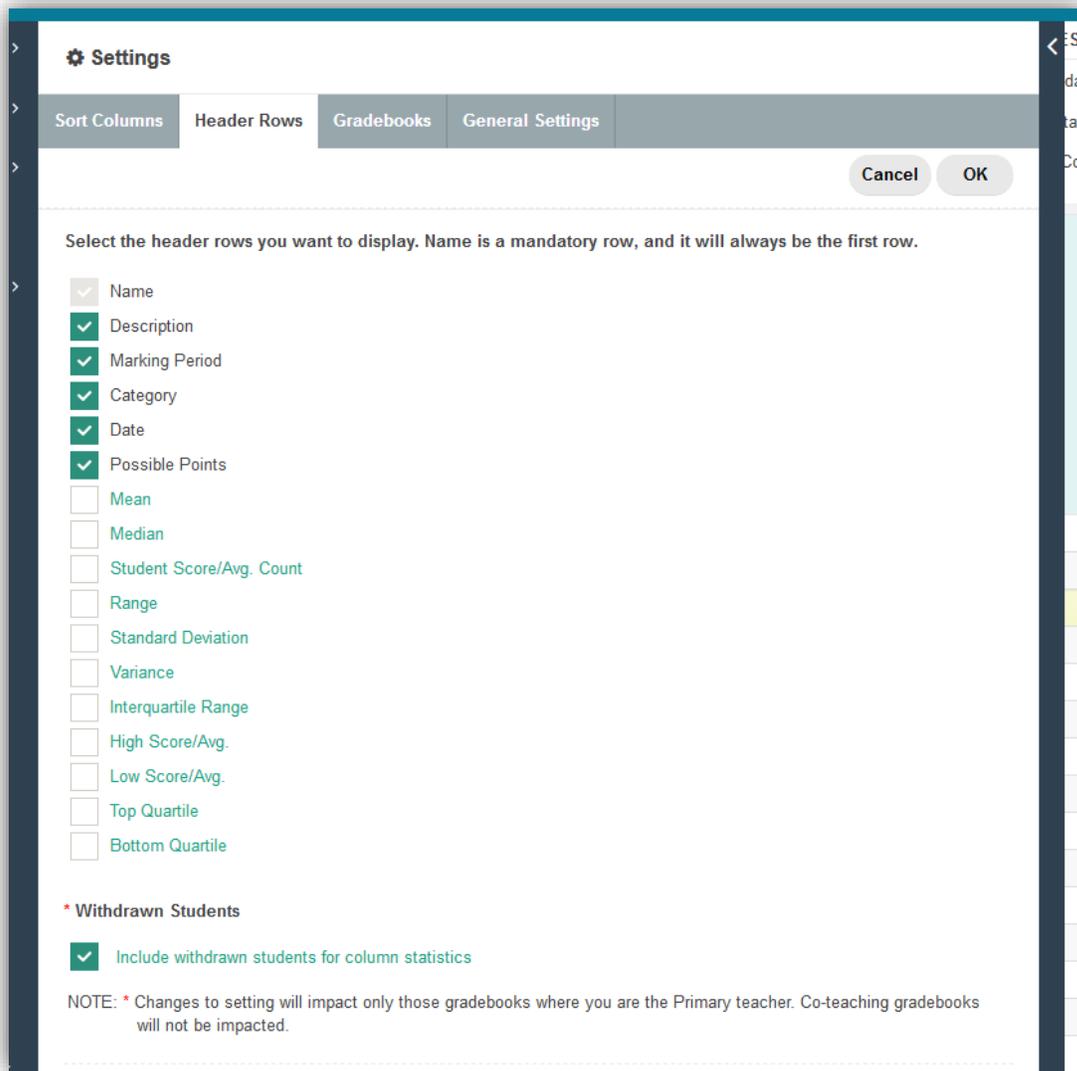


Under **Header Rows**

Select what statistics you would like to show in the header row. Note: the more items that are show, the taller your header row will be, forcing the student data lower on the page.

Under **Withdrawn Students**, uncheck the box to remove withdrawn students from your roster.

Click **OK** to save your changes



Go to the **Gradebooks** tab and check the gradebooks that should be active for semester 1 (and all year), uncheck semester 2 gradebooks.

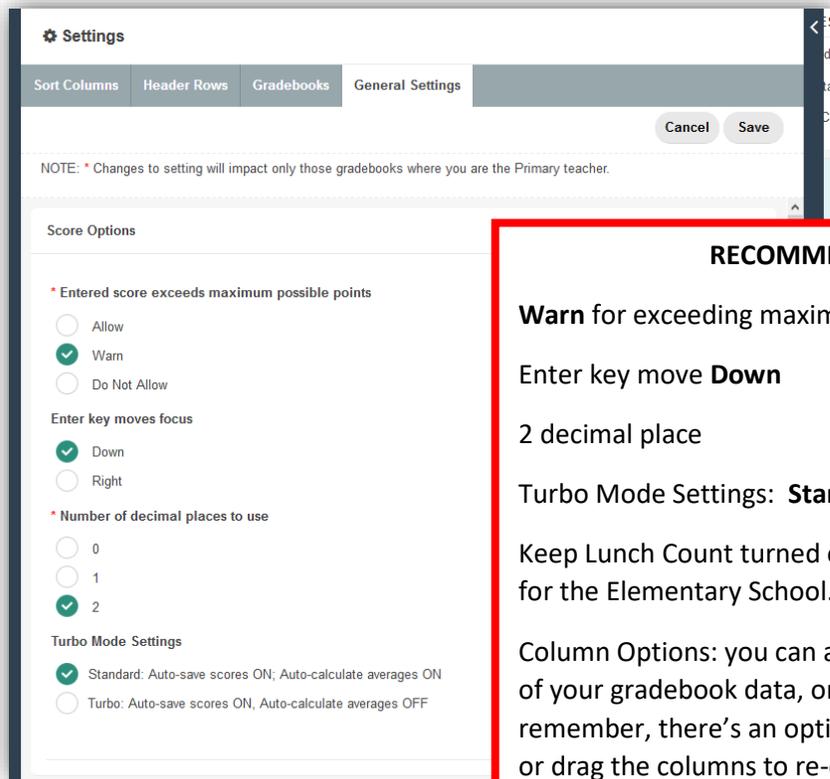
Re-order your courses by hovering over each row, clicking to grab, and moving up or down until your sections are in your desired order.

Save your changes

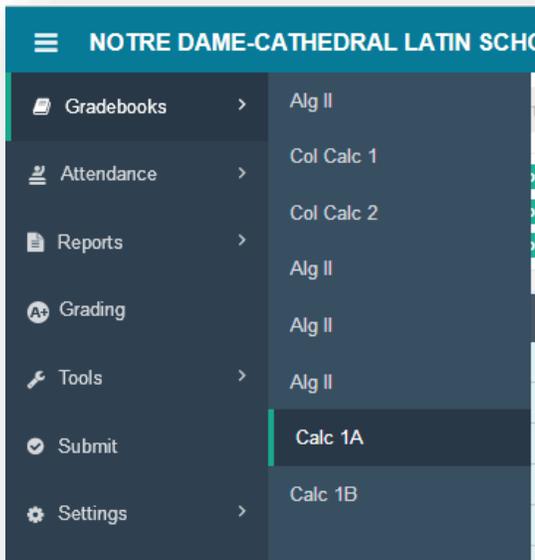
#	CRS/SC	Course Na...	Display As	Meeting Time	Length	Submit Status	Active	Co-Teachers
1	* 2231/01	Alg II	Alg 2 Block 1	A	ALL YEAR	Not Ready	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">i</a>
2	0290/01	Col Calc 1	CCP Calc ...	A	SEM 1	Not Ready	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">i</a>
3	0291/01	Col Calc 2	CCP Calc ...	A	SEM 2	Not Ready	<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">i</a>
4	0290/02	Col Calc 1	CCP Calc ...	B	SEM 1	Not Ready	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">i</a>
5	* 2231/02	Alg II	Alg 2 Block 2	B	ALL YEAR	Not Ready	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">i</a>
6	0243/01	Calc 1A	Calc 1 Blo...	D	SEM 1	Not Ready	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">i</a>
7	5243/01	Calc 1B	Calc 1 Blo...	D	SEM 2	Not Ready	<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">i</a>
8	* 2231/03	Alg II	Alg 2 Block 5	E	ALL YEAR	Not Ready	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">i</a>
9	2231/04	Alg II	Alg 2 Block 6	F	ALL YEAR	Not Ready	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">i</a>
10	0291/02	Col Calc 2	CCP Calc ...	G	SEM 2	Not Ready	<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">i</a>
11	0243/02	Calc 1A	Calc 1 Blo...	H	SEM 1	Not Ready	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">i</a>

Under General Settings

Scroll down to view all the options and refer to recommended settings.



To access each individual gradebook:



From the left hand menu, click on Gradebooks to view your list of Active Gradebooks

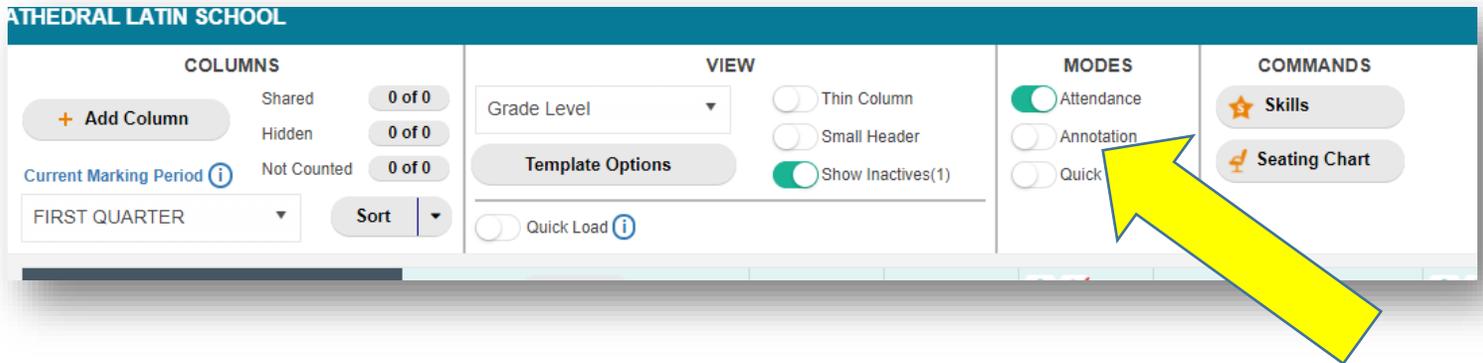
If you have customized the names of your gradebooks in PlusPortals, you will find that they are automatically updated to the custom names in the gradebook program.

The following pages include instructions for:

1. Attendance
2. Adding Assignments
3. Entering grades and annotations
4. Viewing student information
5. Exporting blank gradebook sheets

## 1. Taking and Submitting Attendance

Your attendance column will automatically show the current day/date. If you do not see the attendance column, click on the attendance button.



The screenshot shows the software interface for Cathedral Latin School. The 'MODES' section has the 'Attendance' toggle checked, and a yellow arrow points to it. Other sections include 'COLUMNS', 'VIEW', and 'COMMANDS'.

Enter your attendance under the “Class” Column. After Kathy pulls the attendance, the Office Daily column will populate with the attendance codes.

A blank cell means PRESENT.

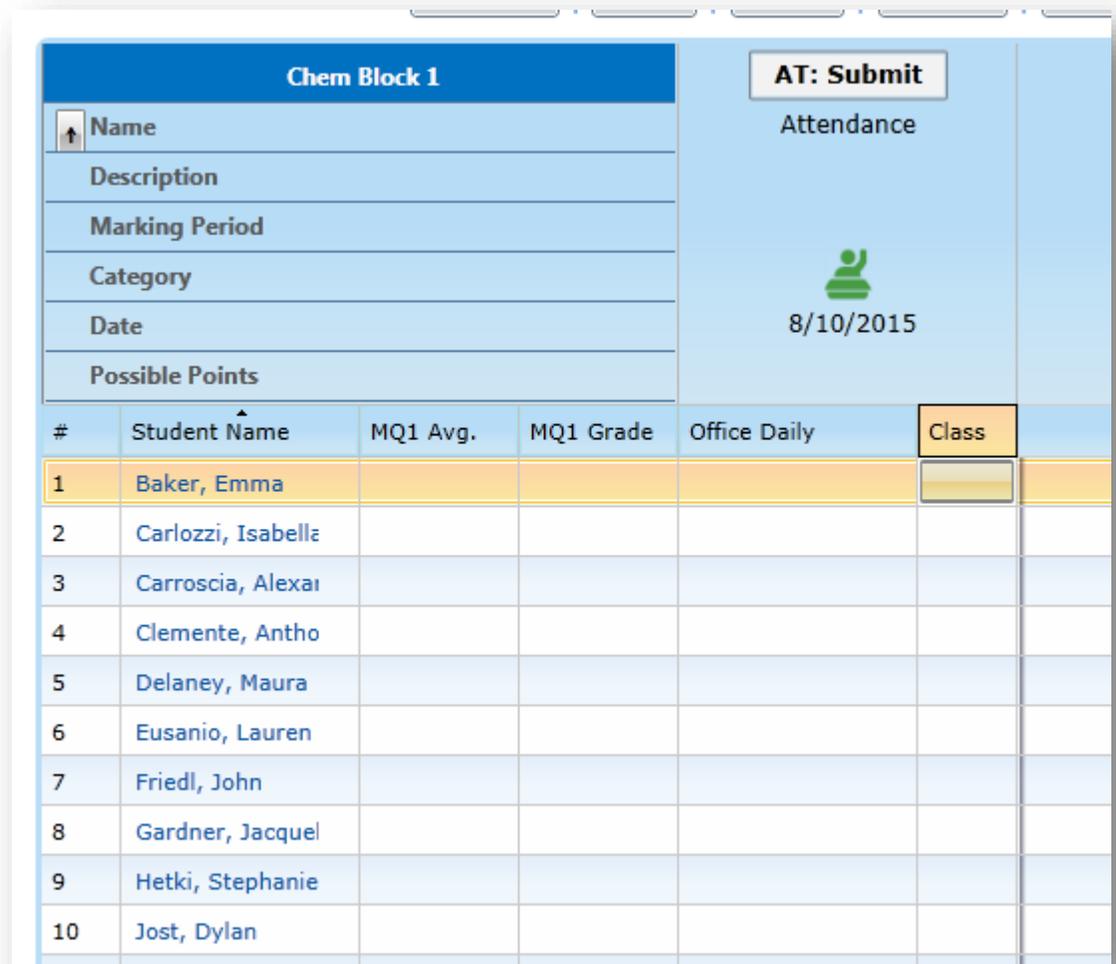
If a student is not physically present in your classroom, mark them absent. Students are considered absent until they appear for class.

If they then show up late, change to tardy.

Click once for Tardy and a T will appear.

Click again for Absence and A will fill the field.

Please have your attendance complete within the first 10 minutes of class so that the Main Office can process the daily attendance.



The screenshot shows the 'Chem Block 1' attendance interface. It includes a 'Name' list, a 'Description' field, a 'Marking Period' field, a 'Category' field, a 'Date' field, and a 'Possible Points' field. The 'Office Daily' column shows attendance codes (T, A) and the 'Class' column shows the current date (8/10/2015). A yellow arrow points to the 'Attendance' button in the 'MODES' section.

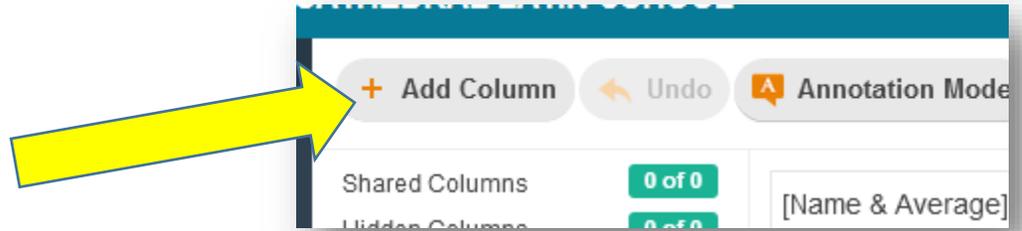
#	Student Name	MQ1 Avg.	MQ1 Grade	Office Daily	Class
1	Baker, Emma				
2	Carlozzi, Isabella				
3	Carroscia, Alexai				
4	Clemente, Antho				
5	Delaney, Maura				
6	Eusanio, Lauren				
7	Friedl, John				
8	Gardner, Jacquiel				
9	Hetki, Stephanie				
10	Jost, Dylan				

Optional Training Topic:

If you have time, look at the seating chart button.

## 2. Adding Assignments

To add an assignment, click on the + Column button.

A screenshot of the 'Add Column' form. The form has a title 'Add Column' and a close button 'X'. Below the title is a button '+ Add Columns From Previous Year'. The form contains several sections: 'Add To:' with radio buttons for 'Current Gradebook Only' (selected), 'All Gradebooks of the Current Course', 'All Gradebooks', and 'Selected Gradebooks'; 'Current Section:' with the text '0243/01 Calc 1A H'; 'Name:' with an empty text input field; 'Description:' with an empty text input field; 'Category:' with a dropdown menu showing 'Achievement'; 'Maximum Possible Points:' with an empty text input field; 'Date:' with a date picker showing '08-03-2017' and a '+/-' button; 'Marking Period:' with a dropdown menu showing 'FIRST QUARTER'. At the bottom, there are three checkboxes: 'Lock Column' (unchecked), 'Count in Averages' (checked, highlighted with a red box), and 'Add to PlusPortals as Coursework' (checked, highlighted with a red box). Below the 'Add to PlusPortals as Coursework' checkbox is another checked checkbox 'Shared (Portals) Column' (highlighted with a red box). At the bottom left is a button 'Link Skills/Standards' and at the bottom right are 'Cancel' and 'Create Column' buttons.

This window gives you the options to enter grades for one gradebook, to all sections, to all gradebooks or to selected gradebooks.

There are 20 characters to name your assignment.

There are at least 30 characters to include a description.

The categories are already provided for you.

Enter the DATE DUE for date.

Lock column – optional, does not allow you to make any changes to a column (you can unlock it very easily.)

Count in averages – so that the assignment will calculate into the grade

Shared means grade on assignment shared with students and parents.

**Add to PlusPortals as Coursework** –means “add this assignment to the PlusPortals so that students and parents can see this upcoming assignment.”

Skip Link Skills/Standards.

Click create columns when ready

You MUST check all 3 boxes when entering a new assignment. If you do not, grades will not count in averages, students and parents will not be able to see the assignment when checking grades, and the assignment will not be posted in PlusPortals for students and parents to see.

Chem Block 1				
Name		20 character		
Description		At least 30 c		
Marking Period		QTR 1		
Category		Academic Ac		
Date		8/10/2015		
Possible Points		25.00		
#	Student Name	MQ1 Avg.	MQ1 Grade	20 character:
1	Baker, Emma			
2	Carlozzi, Isabella			
3	Carroscia, Alexa			
4	Clemente, Antho			
5	Delaney, Maura			
6	Eusanio, Lauren			
7	Friedl, John			

Note that the Padlock symbol shows that the column is locked.

If you try to add scores, nothing will happen.

Click on the padlock to unlock the column.

Note that the green circle shows that the assignment is viewable to parents and students.

What happens if you click on that symbol?

Chem Block 1		20 character		
Description		At least 30 c		
Marking Period		QTR 1		
Category		Academic Ac		
Date		8/10/2015		
Possible Points		25.00		
Grade	20 character:			

To easily edit the assignment, hover over the assignment (place your cursor over "QTR 1"), and double click.

The edit window will pop up for you.

To delete one column at a time, hover over the assignment (over "QTR 1") right click, select Current Column > Delete.

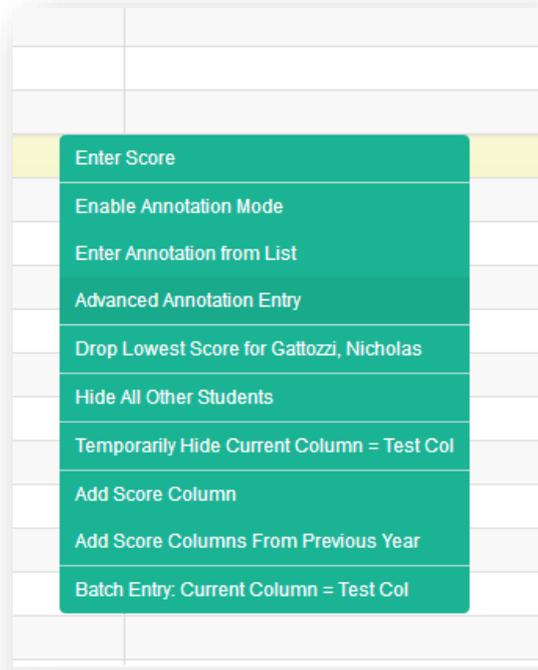
### 3. Enter Grades and Annotations

When entering grades, you have 3 options:

1. Enter a number score
2. Enter X for exempt
3. Enter NS for Not Submitted

By right clicking on the cell, a menu will open up. Today, we will cover annotations.

Optional Topic:  
Batch entering grades (Column fill)



#### Select Advanced Annotations Entry

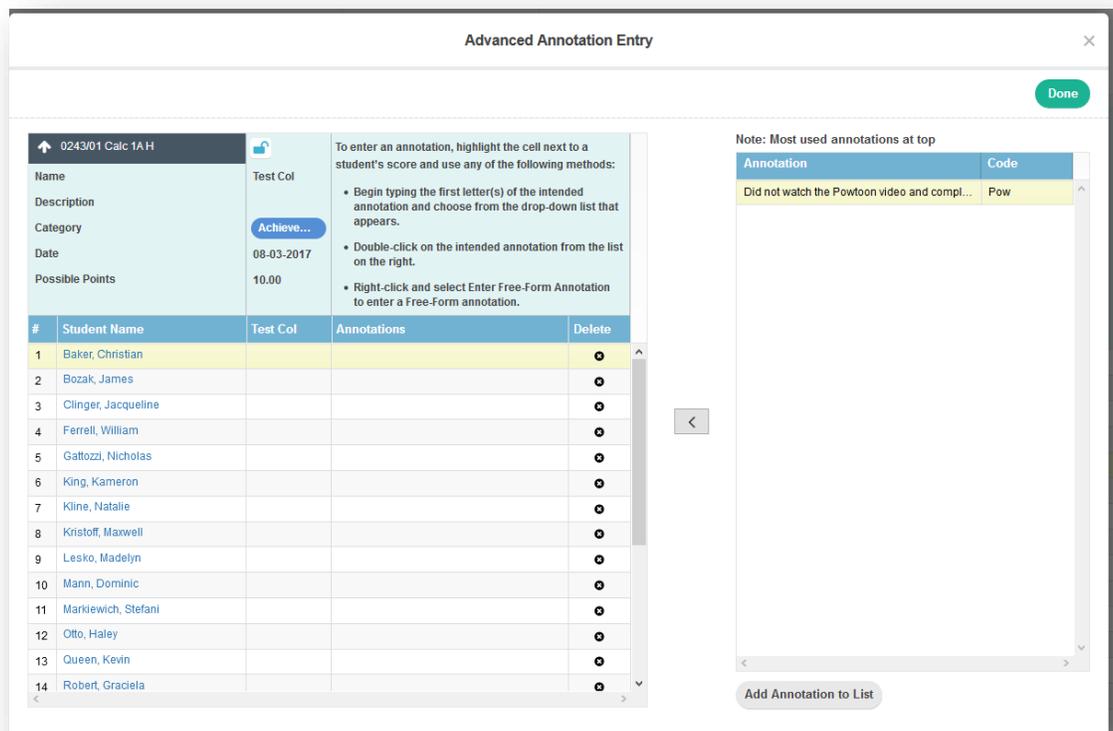
This window will pop up to make comments easily from one student to the next.

If you click on the annotation field, you can create a list of short cut annotations for yourself.

If you *right* click on the field, you can enter a free form comment. **Freeform allows you to explain the reason for NS or X, why a student didn't receive full credit, if a student was absent on due date, etc.**

However, you **cannot** use both a short entry and a free form entry in the same field.

Test each out to see what happens.



#### 4. Viewing Student Information

Marking Period			8/10/2015		
Category					
Date					
Possible Points					
#	Student Name	MQ1 Avg.	MQ1 Grade	Office Daily	Class
1	Baker, Emma				
2	Carlozzi, Isabella				
3	Carroscia, Alexai				
4	Clemente, Antho				
5	Delaney, Maura				
6	Eusanio, Lauren				
7	Friedl, John				
8	Gardner, Jacquiel				
9	Hetki, Stephanie				
10	Jost, Dylan				

To view Student information, click on a student's name.

A window will pop up showing student information.

**Chem Block 1**

Student Name

---

**Isabella Carlozzi**

**Contact Details**

Father: John Carlozzi  
 carlzi@windstream.ne...  
 (440) 285-7721  
 (440) 488-8642

Mother: Christine Carlozzi  
 (440) 285-7721  
 (440) 487-7186

**Demographics**

<b>STUDENT ADDRESS</b> 11900 Raintree Drive Chardon, OH 44024	<b>Parent/Guardian</b> Dr. and Mrs. John Carlozzi	<b>Phone</b> (440) 285-7721
<b>Gender</b> F	<b>Birth Date</b> 04-23-1999	<b>ADVISOR</b> Mrs. Alisa Testa-Finelli
<b>STUDENT CELL</b> (440) 226-9338	<b>EMERGENCY PHONE</b>	<b>GRADE</b> 11

**Column Scores**

Name	Score
20 characters	

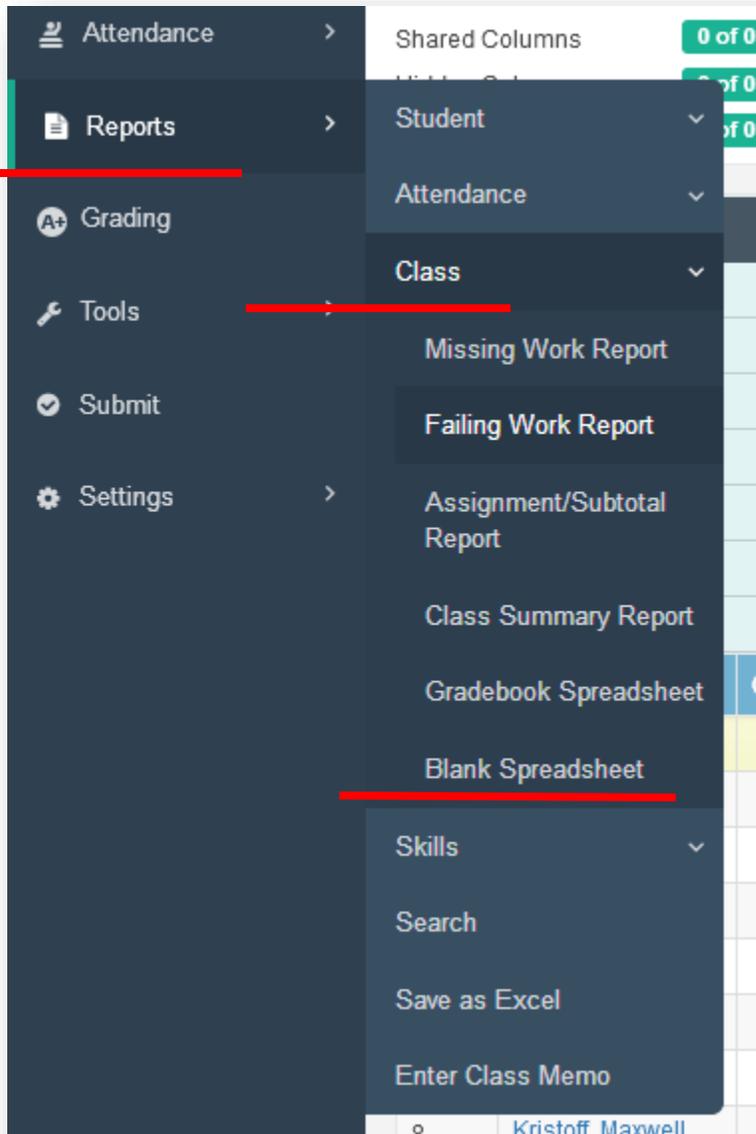
**Class Attendance**

Total Tardies : 0

Total Absences : 0

**Score Analysis**

## 5. Exporting a blank version of your gradebook to excel



Go to Reports, Class and Blank Spreadsheet.

Blank spreadsheet list names of students with blank squares next to their name.

Good for:

- Taking paper attendance
- Rosters for substitute teachers
- The first 2 weeks of school while schedules are still changing
- Emergency drill attendance

A new window will open asking for set up.

Click save and generate.

### Blank Spreadsheet Settings

Back to Gradebook Save and Generate

**Report Layout:**  Portrait  Landscape

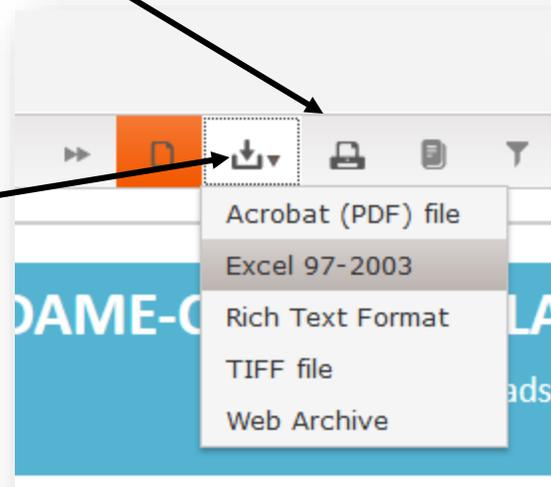
**Sort by Date:**  Ascending  Descending

**Print Number of Header rows:**

Include Withdrawn

You have the option to directly print (click on the printer icon).

Or download to save in various formats.



And that brings us to the end of the 5 tasks you need to know to get you through the first 2 weeks of school.

If you like to poke around and figure things out, please do! You will find that there are many right click options and tools at your disposal. On your PlusPortals home page, I have provided you with resources that you may find helpful (lower right hand corner).

If you have some time, you can customize views of your gradebook to show Grade, Birth Date, etc.

Go to Template Options to select the demographic information that you would like to see, such as Grade, Birth Date, ADVISOR, as my example above shows.

