A recommendation was made in the Worcester Public Schools Information and Instructional Technology plan to purchase a third party Student Information System which would also have an online gradebook. The estimated cost in the plan is $185,000 annually (approximately $5-$7.30 per/student), with a one-time cost of $125,000.

The current student information system is developed in-house. The in-house developer team has a software and feature list well beyond what it is currently capable of handling in a reasonable time. In order to bring the district's developed student information system up to a feature set approaching a third party system, the district would need to hire the additional following positions (estimated salaries):

- Project Manager $95,000
- Graphic and User Interface (UX) Designer $75,000
- Mobile App Developer $85,000
- Software Developer $95,000
- IT Security Engineer $95,000

Once the above staff are hired, it would take 6-12 months to implement a gradebook. This gradebook would not immediately have the same capabilities as a third party system, but would be iterated over time. The software and application backlog would take 1 to 2 years to be significantly reduced so new features could be implemented in a timely manner.

The Administration recommends purchasing an on-line grading system from a third party vendor when funds become available.