

# **Park County School District #1**

## **COVID-19 Pandemic Grading Procedure**

### **Philosophy**

The recommendations on grading are based upon the principle of no educational harm to any child. This pandemic and the statewide suspension of in-person instruction – the first in modern history – has affected our entire society. As we enter uncharted waters, we simply cannot use the same standards for grading that we use when face-to-face instruction occurs. While the Continuity of our Remote Learning Plan is designed using guidance from several expert sources, the success of the Plan will not be fully apparent until after a significant level of implementation has been accomplished. Since home is the new classroom, it is critical that a multitude of family and home contexts are considered prior to determining final grades.

### **Grading**

Remote learning is designed to support student learning and continuity of education. Grading is feedback and communication in a snapshot of time to students and parents. The aim, emphasis, and focus for schoolwork assigned, reviewed, and completed during this period is on learning, not on compliance. With learning being moved off-site, individual student engagement or disengagement are factors outside of the control of the school system; therefore, the aim is that student grades are not lowered as a result of remote learning.

Grading plans have been developed at each level that take into account grades earned during face-to-face instruction (Prior to March 13, 2020) and good faith effort during the 4th quarter demonstrating evidence of continued learning of essential skills. A “good faith effort” is best defined as an attempt to complete assigned work as accurately as possible given the availability of little or no direct instruction, as this is a new and unprecedented set of circumstances.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Trimester Reporting for Elementary School Students**

Reporting at the elementary level will focus on the maintenance of learning, paying particular attention to essential standards.

- Teachers will provide feedback on third trimester report cards in multiple ways. Any standard assessed prior to March 13<sup>th</sup> will be reported according to current rubrics and proficiency scales, similar to first and second trimester report cards. Any standard not assessed prior to March 13<sup>th</sup> will be reported as C19 (COVID – 19).
- During the period of remote learning, teachers will provide feedback and support.
- Students’ reported proficiency levels will not be negatively impacted during remote learning.
- No unit, standard assessment, or any benchmark will be given or reported during the remote learning period.
- Students that were on pace for grade promotion, prior to March 13, will be advanced to the next grade for the 2020-2021 school year.

### **Final Semester Grades: 6th- 8th Grade Students**

PCSD1 has made the decision that the final semester grade of all students in grades 6 through 8 will be calculated in two parts:

#### **Part 1: 3rd Qtr: Classroom Instruction (Face to face Instruction):**

- Teachers will assign a letter grade for the 3rd Quarter based on what a student earned at the end of the quarter.
- Students with missing work will be allowed a grace period until May 1st to submit work missed during the 3rd Quarter. Also, work that students would like to improve, they may submit prior to May 1 for grading.
- No 3rd Quarter Report Cards will be issued.

#### **Part 2: 4th Quarter: eLearning (Remote Learning)**

- At the end of the 4th Quarter, a student will earn either a “P” (Pass) or an “I” (Incomplete). (Note: Middle school students who are enrolled in courses that earn high school credit will receive a Credit (CR) on their report card upon completion of the course. A Credit (CR) will not be calculated into the students’ GPA)

- Passing Grade “P” - A passing grade will be given where a good faith effort demonstrates evidence of continued learning of essential skills. A “good faith effort” is best defined as an attempt to complete assigned work as accurately as possible given the availability of little or no direct instruction, as this is a new and unprecedented set of circumstances. A Pass (P) will not be calculated into the student’s GPA.
- Incomplete Grade - All students with an "I" will be provided an opportunity to complete learning and earn the credit upon return to school in the fall or completion of remedial work assigned during the summer. Upon completion, the "I" on the transcript should be changed to "P" (pass).
- Grades will be entered into Infinite Campus in order to keep track of progress. Grading is used to measure learning and not compliance. Teachers will provide students with feedback on their learning activities. Students will be given the opportunity to use that feedback to improve grades/demonstrate progress.
- Exams - There will be no final exams this semester.
- Students are expected to continue with learning activities assigned during remote learning.
- Students that were on pace for grade promotion prior to March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020 will be advanced to the next grade for the 2020-2021 school year.

### **Final Semester Grades: 9th- 12th Grade Students**

PCSD1 has made the decision that the final semester grade of all students in grades 9 through 12 will be calculated as follows:

### **Second Semester Grades: 9th- 12th Grade Students**

- At the end of the 2nd Semester, a student will earn either a Letter Grade (A-F), Credit (CR), or an Incomplete (I). Students who finish the semester with a “good faith effort” that demonstrates evidence of continued learning of essential skills will be eligible to choose between a Letter Grade (A-D) or Credit (CR) for each course.
- A “good faith effort” is best defined as an attempt to complete assigned work as accurately as possible given the availability of little or no direct instruction, as this is a new and unprecedented set of circumstances.
- Credit (CR) - After grades are calculated, students who have made a good faith effort to progress in their classes will be able to choose, along with their parents/guardians, to have the grade replaced with a Credit (CR) on their transcript to indicate that they have passed the class. A Credit (CR) will not be calculated into the student’s GPA.
- Letter Grade (A-D) – After grades are calculated, students who have made a good faith effort to progress in their classes will be able to choose, along with their parents/guardians, to have the grade that they have earned at the end of the semester or the grade that they had earned prior to the school closure. If a student’s grade is lower at the end of the semester

than it was prior to the school closure, the student may choose the previous grade to be reflected on his/her transcript.

- If a student keeps his/her grade, the grade will be calculated in his/her GPA. If a student elects to take the credit (CR), it will not calculate into his/her GPA.
- Incomplete Grade - Students who are not able to be engaged, or choose to disengage, in Remote Learning, or fail to meet the minimum expectations to demonstrate learning of essential course standards will be issued an “incomplete” (I). All students with an "I" will be provided an opportunity to complete learning and earn the credit upon return to school in the fall or completion of credit recovery during the summer months (if available). Upon recovery of credit, the "I" on the transcript will be changed to "CR" (pass).
- Grades will be entered into Infinite Campus in order to keep track of progress. Flexibility and responsiveness to our students’ needs is extremely important when approaching grading of student learning during this new remote learning context. Grading is used to measure learning and not compliance. Teachers should be giving students a lot of feedback on their learning. Students should be given the opportunity to use that feedback to improve grades.
- Exams - There will be no final exams this semester.
- Letter Grade (F) – A student may fail and be required to repeat a class if one or both of the following conditions exists:
  - a. The student had a 44% or below at the time of the school closure and the student does not finish the semester with a good faith effort, or
  - b. The student had a 44% or below at the time of the school closure and the student does not raise his/her grade to at least a 60%

### **Additional Considerations for High School Students:**

- Students who are completing online courses (i.e. NWC, Canvas T.O.R., BYU Online, Florida Virtual, etc.) will be evaluated/graded in accordance with the online platform expectations for completion as well as the online course expectations established by PCSD1 prior to March 13, 2020.
- Students intending to take NWC ENGL 1010, HIST 1210, or HIST 1221, during the 2020-2021 school year must earn at least a B in their English class this semester to be eligible to enroll in that course. NWC will not accept the credit (CR) for eligibility for enrollment in these courses.
- Students must earn credit in at least five (5) classes to be eligible for participation in athletics and activities during the fall 2020 semester.
- Additional time, support, and resources will be available for seniors who are not able to be engaged, or choose to disengage, in Remote Learning, or fail to meet the minimum expectations to demonstrate learning of essential course standards.
- All courses on the student schedule shall be reflected on the high school transcript with an appropriate grade or mark during this pandemic. Further, courses will be noted with C19 (COVID - 19) behind them to indicate these marks were issued during this pandemic.