Activities, Grading, and Feedback for Distance Learning

April 24, 2020

Thank you for your flexibility and patience as we have worked through the first two weeks of our distance learning plan. We appreciate the feedback we have received from students, parents, and staff.

Beginning next week, we will publish the weekly calendar (elementary) and activities (secondary) on Monday nights to allow families to plan for the coming week.

As noted in earlier communications, we will be using a pass/fail process for the remainder of the year. This practice mirrors that of most of the other divisions in our region. There have been many questions about how the pass/fail process will work.

We hope that the information below answers many of your questions. However, if you need further clarity, please feel free to contact your child’s principal.

Information for the Third Nine Weeks (Q3)
Activities assigned between 1.27.20 and 3.13.20.

Elementary
● All elementary students’ third nine weeks (Q3) grades will be closed out as of March 13th and any outstanding assignments will be excused.

Secondary
● All students in grades 6-12 will have the opportunity to make up any missed or outstanding assignments.
  ○ All makeup work must be completed prior to May 4th in order to be graded and counted into a student’s grade.
  ○ Alternative assignments that can be supported in the Distance Learning environment may be given to replace a missing Q3 assignment.

Report Cards
● Final Q3 grades will be available in the PowerSchool parent portal on May 8. Students with disabilities will receive additional progress reports.
● Preschool and Kindergarten report cards will be mailed.
● If a family needs a paper copy of a report card, please contact the principal.
Information for Phase 1 of Distance Learning -  
Activities assigned between 3.16.20 and 4.3.20

These activities will be marked “Collected” if returned by the student.  
• A numerical grade (points, percent, or letter) will NOT be entered into the numeric entry point. However, if numerical grades were entered, they will not be calculated into either Q3 or Q4.  
• There is no penalty for uncollected items.  
• Elementary students will not return paper copies at this time due to safety concerns.  
• Dual enrollment students will receive a numeric entry as needed for a final numeric grade at the corresponding institution.

Information for Phase 2 of Distance Learning (Q4) -  
Activities assigned between 4.14.20 and 6.2.20

All activities submitted by students will be marked “Collected” in PowerSchool.  
• Teachers will provide feedback in a variety of ways, including Seesaw (elementary), Schoology (secondary) and PowerSchool to students on the work they complete to facilitate successful learning. Regular feedback will be provided to students but not on every assignment.  
• A numerical grade (points, percent, or letter) will NOT be entered into PowerSchool in the numeric entry point.*  
  ○ Teachers may enter a “score” on an activity in the comment section of an assignment as a means of feedback to the student. However, it will not be utilized to assess the final pass/fail status of Q4.  
  ○ *Dual enrollment students will receive a numeric entry if needed for a final numeric grade at the corresponding institution. However, the final PHS Q4 grade will be P/F like their PHS peers.  
• Distance Learning activities will continue to be published through June 2 (May 26 for seniors only).  
• Teachers may use “Missing” for activities not collected after the initial due date. However, students will be able to turn work in after the due date as distance learning conditions may vary for students.  
• Paper copies of activities will not be collected at this time. If a student is unable to take photos of an activity and return it, teachers will use other forms of communication to verify work was attempted.
• Teachers will review the items collected at the end of Q4 to determine that a student has participated in required standards, competencies, and objectives that are essential for success in subsequent coursework. Students who have participated will receive a “P” (pass) for the quarter.

• An overall “P” (pass) or “FA” (fail) for Q4 will be entered into PowerSchool, but will not be calculated into the final grade. It will appear on the final report card, but will not appear on a student transcript.

• Elementary only - Reading and word study levels will remain the same as Quarter 3 and no additional BAS level information will be sent home.

Information for the final report card and transcript (Y1)

Y1 Final Grade

• For yearlong courses an average of MP1, MP2, and MP3 as well as First Semester Exam, if taken, will be used for the final letter/numerical course grade.
  ○ For secondary students: Sem1-67%, Q3-33%
  ○ For elementary students: Q1-33%, Q2-33%, Q3-33%

• Semester electives (PMS) will be combined as a single yearlong elective using the grading calculations for yearlong courses.

• School-based staff will determine if a recovery plan is needed for course completion as part of the transition to future learning for students who have not participated in distance learning activities.