

May 20, 2020

Dear Pearl River High School Students and Families,

I hope that all is well with you and your loved ones.

During this period of extended closure, I want to thank you for your support and patience during our time of distance learning. I know that it has been a challenging time for our students, families, teachers, and staff members, but we are giving it our all and navigating this together. We truly appreciate and value your feedback, support, and partnership!

The document below is the PRHS 4th Quarter Grading and Final Course Grade Calculation Plan. This plan was developed based on the input of our faculty, students, and administration. When reading the document, you will see that the weight of each quarter has been redistributed to allow the 4th quarter to count as 15% of a student's overall grade. Additionally, there will not be a traditional final examination period. Rather, teachers may elect to administer a final assessment that is embedded within the 4th quarter. As such, any assessment administered will count as part of the 4th quarter grade and will not hold individual weight when determining a student's final grade calculation. The document also outlines the process that will be used to grade students with holistic letter grades and how those letter grades will factor into grade point average. We believe these changes will account for some of the variability of the educational experience of our students, while continuing to maintain a system that recognizes student success and hard work.

As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to your child's counselor or a member of the PRHS Administration. Please keep safe and healthy!

Sincerely,

Michael J. Murphy

Principal

4th Quarter Grading and Final Course Grade Calculation

Final Course Grade Calculation (full year courses with mid-term exams)

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Mid-Term	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
25%	25%	10%	25%	15%

Final Course Grade Calculation (full year courses with no midterm exam)

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
30%	30%	30%	10%

Final Course Grade Calculation (half year course)

Quarter 3	Quarter 4
62.5%	37.5%

A traditional “final exam” will not be administered and therefore, will not be calculated as part of the final course grade. However, each department will decide if a final project or cumulative assessment will be administered.

Grading for the 4th Quarter

In an effort to allow for the maximum amount of flexibility and benefit for students, while maintaining a system that recognizes levels of success for meeting and exceeding NYS Learning Standards, the following system of grading will be administered to determine the grades for the 4th quarter:

- Students will receive holistic letter grades, based on their performance throughout the marking period. Students will receive the maximum numerical grade conversion within each letter grade for calculation into their grade point average as follows:

Numerical range (based on graded assignments & assessments in the 4th Quarter)	Letter Grade on Report Card (4th Quarter)	Numerical conversion for GPA Calculation (4th Quarter)
95-100%	A+	100%
90-94%	A	94%
85-89%	B+	89%
80-84%	B	84%
75-79%	C+	79%

70-74%	C	74%
60-69%	D	69%
≤59%	F	59%

Example: Based on the graded assignments and assessments for the 4th quarter, a student with an average of 81% in Math will see a “B” on his/her report card for the 4th quarter in Math. That B will be converted to an 84% for his/her Math grade and then averaged in with the other 4th quarter course grades to determine the GPA for the 4th Quarter. The 84% will also be included as 15% of his/her Math course average for the year.

- Due to the extenuating circumstances related to individual students and/or specific courses, a teacher, in consultation with the principal, may determine that individual students and/or entire courses receive “No Grade” (NG) for the 4th quarter. In the case of individual students, the principal will make the final decision, with input from the teacher(s), student, parents, and guidance counselor (as necessary/appropriate). The 4th quarter grade for this course will not be included in a student’s GPA for the 4th quarter. The final grade for the course will be based on the following calculation:

Full Year (with mid-term exam)

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Mid-Term	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
30%	30%	10%	30%	NG

Full Year (with no midterm exam)

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
33.34%	33.34%	33.34%	NG