

# **Grading and School Year Update**

**April 15, 2020** 

Dear Clarke County School District Community,

We miss seeing our students and look forward to when school days return to "normal." The COVID-19 crisis is a historic moment in time, changing the way we live, work, and learn. We give thanks to parents, family members, guardians, caregivers, and community members who continue to support our students in so many ways.

We acknowledge the difficulty in navigating a distance model of teaching and learning. We miss the physical space and resources utilized in a classroom and across a school. Our teachers miss the personal, face-to-face interactions with students. Our students are now connected remotely to friends and teachers and miss the opportunity to participate in extra-curricular activities and celebrate yearly school traditions.

It has been a challenge to provide online/distance instruction to students as we recognize students do not have the same degree of access to learning. We understand the difficulty placed on our staff to support students remotely – often in addition to being parents/and or caretakers for family members.

Due to the unique challenges we face (as a school district and a community), the Clarke County School District has decided not to assign any new academic coursework after **Friday**, **May 1**, **2020**.

This document outlines the effects this change will have on our students.

### **Notes**

- As you review the appropriate section below that applies to your student, please contact your student's teacher(s) with specific questions.
- All student work submitted during the distance learning period will be applied to a student's overall
  grade only if it adds value to the student's numeric grade.
- The last day for new academic assignments will be Friday, May 1, 2020. See the following sections for specifics for each grade level.
- Students may keep their electronic devices over the summer.
  - Seniors and students transferring to another district will receive additional information regarding how to return devices to their schools.

# **Grading Procedures**

The district's grading guidance has been modified to include the following:

- Academic performance during remote learning will not negatively impact a student's final grade.
   Student work completed during remote learning will <u>only</u> be used to increase a student's final grade.
  - o Students in elementary and middle school will receive a final grade of Pass (PL) or Fail (FL).
  - Only high school students will receive numeric grades.
- The district's retention/promotion policy will be followed for all students.

# **Elementary and Middle School Students**

- Students in elementary and middle school will receive a final grade of Pass (PL) or Fail (FL).
- No summer school will be offered for elementary/middle school students.

### Students in Grades 9–11

### Students with a Grade of "80" or Above in their Class

• Students have the option to accept grades as of **April 25, 2020**, as their final Q4 grade (grade must be an "80" or higher).

### OR

• Students may continue to submit assignments to improve their average until May 1, 2020. Teachers have the discretion to work with students in unique situations who may need additional time for grade improvement.

### Students with a Grade of "79" or Below in their Class

Students with a grade of "79" or below in their class will continue their studies via distance learning to provide the opportunity for grade remediation from April 25, 2020 – May 1, 2020.

### **Summer School and Credit Deficiencies**

- Summer school will be offered for high school students only from June 1, 2020 June 30, 2020.
- Students with failing numeric averages in core courses (e.g., English, mathematics, social studies, science, or foreign language) will receive an Incomplete (I). Students can make up the course in summer school via Edgenuity or through credit recovery by December 2020. Students with an average of 60-69 will be offered a "mini" semester. Students with an average below 60 will be required to retake the course. If students do not make up the credit, the student will receive their failing Quarter 3 grade. Please contact your student's teacher with questions.

# **High School Seniors**

#### Students with a Grade of "70" or Above in their Class

 Students have the option to accept grades as of April 25, 2020, as their final Q4 grade (grade must be a "70" or higher).

### OR

• Students may continue to improve their average until May 21, 2020.

#### Students with a Grade of "69" or Below in their Class

Students will continue submitting assignments to improve their average until May 21, 2020.

### **Summer School and Credit Deficiencies**

- Summer school will be offered for high school students only from June 1, 2020 June 30, 2020.
- Students with failing numeric averages in core courses (e.g., English, mathematics, social studies, science, or foreign language) will receive an Incomplete (I). Students can make up the course in summer school via Edgenuity or through credit recovery by December 2020. Students with an average of 60-69 will be offered a "mini" semester. Students with an average below 60 will be required to retake the course. If students do not make up the credit, the student will receive their failing Quarter 3 grade. Please contact your student's teacher with questions.

## **Special Programs**

### **Dual Enrollment/Athens Tech**

Dual Enrollment Institutions including, Athens Tech, will communicate their requirements to students and families separately.

### **Pre-K Extended Learning**

- Pre K students will continue distance learning activities from May 4, 2020 May 21, 2020.
- The Office of Early Learning will provide work packets.

### **Extended School Year (ESY)**

Extended School Year will be provided for Adaptive Special Education Students only from May 4, 2020 – May 21, 2020.