

DPS Grading Policies and Procedures During the Distance Learning Period  
4th Marking Period and Final Grades

**Option 1: Traditional Grading Option**

Teachers grade work and enter grades per current grading policy.

-All assignments will be entered into PowerSchool.

-Late-work policy will be suspended during the distance learning period.

**-Final grades will be calculated into GPA.**

-End of year exams will be optional for students, all students will be exempt from exams unless a student would like to complete an end of year culminating project or exam which would be an opportunity to improve a student's grade.

**Option 2: Pass/Fail Grading Option**

If the 4th marking period grade lowers the overall GPA for the course, with teacher recommendation students could elect to choose a Pass/Fail grade for the 4th marking period. The course GPA for students who select the pass/fail option would be based on their Semester 1 average (second semester half-year courses would not count towards GPA). A passing grade would be an average of 65 or above and a failing grade would be any average 64 and below (a numeric average would still be kept to calculate the end of year course average). Students would have until the end of the marking period to decide which grading method they will select.

**Pass with Distinction** - student completed all assignments and would have earned a 85 or higher if this were a traditional grading situation. Students must take the final exam or complete a culminating project to be eligible for this category.

**Pass** - student completed all or majority of assignments and would have earned a grade between 65 and 84 if this were a traditional grading situation

**Fail** - student was **unwilling** to participate in distance learning or **did not make an effort** to improve or resubmit work; this will constitute a failing grade for Quarter 4, not the entire school year unless they were already failing prior to school closure on March 13, 2020.

**Pass/Incomplete** - this will be reserved for students who had significant obstacles to participating in distance learning such as sickness, family crisis, lack of resources

(1) students who may not have had adequate access to technology tools during class cancelations

(2) students with IEPs in need of direct support, or who otherwise require additional resources to succeed

(3) EL students

(4) students who may need counseling or mental health services that they cannot receive at home

(5) students who are sick themselves, caring for a family member, or dealing with the trauma of loss as a result of the pandemic

(6) disengaged students, who with a second chance opportunity and counseling could regain their agency and get a result of Pass (and credit)

**Engagement/Participation**

Students will receive engagement/participation points that will reflect their level of combined engagement/participation for the fourth marking period. Engagement/participation will be tracked weekly by staff. Students will be awarded points based on a 3 point scale - these points will be added to the students final quarter average.

No Engagement	= 0 points
Little Engagement	= 1 points
Some Engagement	= 2 points
Full Engagement	= 3 points

### **End of the Year Exams**

End of year exams will be optional for students, all students will be exempt from exams unless a student would like to complete an end of year culminating project or exam which would be an opportunity to improve a student's grade. Students must notify their teacher by June 1st if they are going to take the end of year exam.

### **Middle School & Elementary (Grades 4 & 5) 4th Marking Period Grading Policy**

Based on guidance from CSDE and recognition of the variability of online learning experiences for our younger students, we will use a Pass/Fail grading system for the 4th Marking Period.

Teachers will continue to grade and track student work throughout the marking period. Though we are grading and tracking work, the focus should be student engagement and providing specific feedback and opportunities for students to improve and resubmit their work. At the end of the marking period, students will be assigned one of four options based on their completed work.

**Pass with Distinction** - students completed all assignments and would have earned a 85 or higher if this were a traditional grading situation (these students would qualify for honor roll.)

**Pass** - students completed all or majority of assignments and would have earned a grade between 65 and 84 if this were a traditional grading situation

**Fail** - student was **unwilling** to participate in distance learning or **did not make an effort** to improve or resubmit work; this will constitute a failing grade for Quarter 4, not the entire school year unless they were already failing prior to school closure on March 13, 2020.

**Pass/Incomplete** - this will be reserved for students who had significant obstacles to participating in distance learning such as sickness, family crisis, lack of resources

- (1) students who may not have had adequate access to technology tools during class cancelations
- (2) students with IEPs in need of direct support, or who otherwise require additional resources to succeed
- (3) EL students
- (4) students who may need counseling or mental health services that they cannot receive at home
- (5) students who are sick themselves, caring for a family member, or dealing with the trauma of loss as a result of the pandemic

(6) disengaged students, who with a second chance opportunity and counseling could regain their agency and get a result of Pass (and credit)

Regardless of the final grade, teacher feedback/narrative/comments/ will be very specific in order to record the specific reasons a student was assigned a grade for future reference.

Kindergarten - Gr. 3 students will continue to be marked using the existing system:

N: Needs Improvement

P: Progressing

M: Meets Expectations

E: Exceeds Expectations

### **Engagement/Participation**

Students will receive engagement/participation points that will reflect their level of combined engagement/participation for the fourth marking period. Engagement/participation will be tracked weekly by staff. Students will be awarded points based on a 3 point scale - these points will be added to the students final quarter average prior to determining the Pass/Fail.

No Engagement = 0 points

Little Engagement = 1 points

Some Engagement = 2 points

Full Engagement = 3 points