



May 4, 2020

Dear Arc Parent/Guardian,

Now that the Governor has confirmed that we will not return to school for this academic year, Memorial Junior High and Brush High School are updating their grading policy for students and teachers. This revision is designed to provide a safety net to students experiencing significant disruption during the closure, but also allow students who wish to make gains to do so.

Our SEL Remote Learning during this period of closure requires a junior high school grading policy that will provide reward for work, be sensitive to student and family needs, and motivate students and teachers to continue learning.

SEL Priorities:

- Ensure our students' safety and well-being and to do no harm.
- Recognize that during this unique time, our Arcs families are experiencing a variety of challenges which are not in their/our control. Therefore, our grading policies must not harm any child.
- Maintain strong relationships and open communication among our school staff, students, and families.
- Learning over grades. Continue student learning in order to be prepared for the next grade/class.

SEL Student Learning Expectations:

- Academic integrity is paramount to our core beliefs. Students are expected to do their own work, utilizing resources available to them for assistance. Working on assignments with other students is permissible and encouraged.
- All work assigned during the 4th quarter needs to be completed and will be **accepted by teachers through May 27, 2020.** *
- Teachers will not deduct points for late assignments.

- Teachers will continue to maintain office hours throughout the remainder of the school year.
- Teachers will notify parents of students who did not engage in a course at all during the previous week.
- If a student continues not to engage, the teacher will notify the school administration and counselor for follow-up.
- Any student that does not complete an assignment will have “missing” noted in Progress Book when the assignment is initially due, but the zero grade will not be final until the end of the semester.
- High School credit classes at Memorial Junior High School will be graded based on the Brush High School grading guidelines.

Student Athletes:

Remember your athletic eligibility for Fall 2020 (next school year) depends on you passing your classes during this quarter. You have to pass five (5) classes in order to be eligible for sports in the Fall. So if you plan on playing Football, Volleyball, Cheerleading, X-Country, Girls Tennis, Boys Soccer or Girls Soccer next fall you have to make sure you are doing your best this quarter by passing five (5) classes.

7-12 Grading:

- For the last quarter’s letter grade, students will receive either a Pass/Fail, which will reflect all work submitted from the 4th quarter.

PASS

- Students successfully complete ALL teacher assigned work.
- Students attempt to complete some assigned work.

FAIL

- Students did NOT attempt to complete ANY teacher assigned work.

GRADING in General

- ***As long as students are engaged and participating to the best of their ability in remote learning, students will NOT earn a lower 4th quarter grade than what was achieved in the 3rd quarter.***
- Zeroes will NOT be assigned to students who do not complete work.
- Staff will communicate and attempt to have students complete AND turn in work.
- All work, including late work, will be accepted, graded, and uploaded into Progress Book.

Failing Grades:

No student will be awarded a failing grade unless explicit communication and intervention have been attempted by their teacher. The possibility of a failing grade will be communicated to each student and family in advance so a passing grade can be earned.

Intervention/Support

In the case of a student not making progress on assignments, a teacher will work with the school counselor to make active contact and provide assistance on work completion. In the case of a student with a disability, this communication will include the case manager. This intervention will happen before a failing grade is awarded.

- **The final 4th quarter grade is to reflect effort based off of assigned 4th quarter work**

**Information below is for 9-12 Students Only
&
MJH Students Taking HS Credit Courses**

- *As long as students are engaged and participating to the best of their ability in remote learning, students will NOT earn a lower 4th quarter grade than what was achieved in the 3rd quarter*
- **The chart below is for students in Grades 9-12 and MJH students taking HS credit courses:** We acknowledge that students and families are adjusting to changes in home and work situations as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Keeping that in mind, for the purposes of the this 4th quarter guidance, second semester final grades will be calculated as follows:

Quarter 3 Grade	Quarter 4 Grade	Second Semester Grade
A	Pass	Pass
B	Pass	Pass
C	Pass	Pass
D	Pass	Pass
F	Fail	Fail
A	Fail	Pass
B	Fail	Pass
C	Fail	Pass
D	Fail	Pass
F	Pass	Pass

Due to the varying circumstances of these unprecedented times, all cumulative grade point averages for high school credit classes will be calculated with the FIRST semester grades only, for the 2019-20 school year. This decision was made to not penalize students due to the unprecedented times.

There are no scheduled final exams this year. Our revised grading policy aims to lessen academic losses, while providing compassionate security for students struggling in remote learning and allowing those who succeed to continue.

The policy will continue to be supported by teachers, counselors, principals, and other staff reaching out to students and families in need to help. We remain committed to that support and partnership, and all students and families are encouraged to reach out with their needs for help.