



Grading and Attendance during School Closure Secondary Spring 2020

Semester Grades – Middle School and High School

Due to the current health crisis and resulting school closure, second semester grades for the 2019-20 school year will look different from what we are used to. Rather than maintain the traditional grading method, an alternative grading system was created to accommodate the learning challenges our students face during the pandemic.

Purpose Statement: The purpose of the grading system during school closure is to:

- Minimize the negative impact of the school closure on students' academic records
- Monitor and assess students' academic engagement
- Ensure students receive feedback and support on their academic engagement

Grading Criteria: Snohomish School District will adopt the **A, B, or I** grading criteria for secondary classes this second semester. **However, AIM and Re-Entry will continue their use of the Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading system.**

- **A or 4.0 on the 4.0 grading scale**
 - This grade is for students who have had consistent or frequent engagement i.e. Student is engaged, per below definition, at least three times a week.
- **B or 3.0 on the 4.0 grading scale**
 - This grade is for students who are adequately engaged i.e. Student is engaged, per definition below, at least twice a week.
- **I (Incomplete)**
 - This is a rare option for circumstances that might warrant an Incomplete. This is a team decision made by the teacher and the principal. The Incomplete grade will be changed to an A or a B according to a district process to be developed soon.

Grades are not based on percentages or the assessment of learned material, but rather through engagement with the lessons and learning activities.

*Teachers will provide students with feedback on their academic work and checks for understanding around **academic standards** and **learning outcomes** for the purposes of supporting student progress in learning.*

Engagement is defined as a student's involvement and participation in the lessons and learning activities. It does **not** reflect a level of mastery of standards, content, or skills. This definition is in keeping with the district's intent to minimize the adverse impact of the health crisis on students' academic records. Engagement will include any of the following, but not limited to:

- turning in assignments,
- connecting with teachers by email, phone, or video conferencing,
- logging on to Canvas and participating in activities or discussions,
- participating in online class meetings.

College in the High School: High school students who are taking a "College in the High School" course will receive specific information from their teachers. Please note that "College in the High School" may still be assessed according to the expectation of each respective college.

Sno-Isle and CTE Dual Credit: We are still seeking clarity for grading in Sno-Isle and CTE (Career and Technical Education) Dual Credit courses. We will provide further information as soon as it is possible.

Grading of Assignments and Learning Activities

Teachers will provide students with comments and feedback on their work for the purpose of helping students reflect on their progress toward learning and on what support they might need to meet standards. Student assignments turned in during the school closure will be neither graded nor entered in to Skyward.

Turning in Missing Work

Students may turn in missing work that was due prior to March 12 if it helps the student learn new material by receiving feedback on missing work from the teacher. However, it is not required and will not be graded. This is to allow students to focus on new learning and not fret over missing work that was due prior to the crisis. Not turning in missing work will not negatively impact students' semester grade; rather, grades will be based on engagement in learning as we move forward.

Attendance

Teachers will check attendance weekly to ensure that all students receive the support needed to engage academically during the school closure. Attendance information will help teachers strategically reach out to students who are not engaging with academic work.