

**Madison County Schools**  
**9-13 Remote Learning**  
**Grading Policy**  
**4/1/2020**

This document was created following the guidance provided by the NC SBE in the March 27 memo from NCDPI: [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1l\\_qQSpeW64dED5gEFfCUdA1r--5Usnyv/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1l_qQSpeW64dED5gEFfCUdA1r--5Usnyv/view?usp=sharing)

**Remote Learning Definition:**

In NC K-12 public schools, remote/distance learning is defined as learning that takes place outside of the traditional school setting using various media and formats, such as but not limited to: video conference, telephone conference, print material, online material, or learning management systems.

**Critical Factors for effective remote learning:**

**Remote learning...**

- is accessible by all students for which the learning is intended and is responsive to diverse learning groups;
- maintains consistent communication between instructional staff and students;
- addresses the curricular and instructional needs associated with appropriate Standards;
- includes evidence of student learning; and,
- considers the whole child as well as the home learning environment.

**Guidance for Grading during Remote Learning in grades 9-11:**

When remote learning occurs in grades 9-11, MCS will provide meaningful feedback to promote student growth based on the use of the following instructional platforms: CANVAS, Google Classrooms, Google Websites, and Instructional Packets that are available as needed. If the above critical factors are met for remote learning, MCS may evaluate student learning in the format the school already uses for grading in 9-11, focusing on where students were at grade wise on March 13. MCS will focus on supporting student progress and communicating feedback to students and families, rather than assigning grades.

**Guidance for Grading during Remote Learning in grades 12-13:**

When remote learning occurs in grades 12-13, MCS will provide meaningful feedback to promote student growth based on the use of the following instructional platforms: CANVAS, Google Classrooms, Google Websites, and Instructional Packets as needed. The above critical factors for effective remote learning will be the driving force of all grading decisions. Grading will be prioritized to focus on meeting graduation requirements with a particular emphasis on students who were not meeting expectations as of March 13. Students in 12-13 will receive a Pass "PC19" or Withdrawal "WC19" based on their learning as of March 13. If the student in 12-13 has an F as of March 13 on a graduation requirement, MCS will provide remote learning opportunities for the student to improve this grade. MCS will focus on supporting student progress and meeting graduation requirements by communicating feedback to students and families.

**Guidance for Graduating Seniors:**

The State Board of Education has provided guidance to all NC public schools for all seniors who will graduate with the class of 2020. The intent is to give every senior, every opportunity to graduate.

- Grading practices for transcript purposes will hold seniors harmless for the impact of COVID-19. Seniors will receive grades for fall courses and fall grades will count toward GPA.
- Graduating Senior grades will be converted to a Pass or Withdrawal based on their learning as of March 13, for spring courses. Seniors can be withdrawn from a course if the course is not required for graduation and only in consultation with counselors and administrators. While seniors in high school courses will receive no

failing grade for course time past March 13, they are strongly encouraged to complete courses in order to prepare for post-secondary education and the workforce.

- Remote learning for graduating seniors who were not meeting course expectations as of March 13 will be prioritized. Course expectations can be met through remote learning, virtual public schools, credit recovery, or locally developed assessments.
- The State Board of Education has waived all local credit requirements for graduation beyond the 22 course credits required for graduation, and they voted to suspend all requirements regarding end of course assessments through June 30, 2020.

*With these steps in place we hope to see all of our seniors graduating this year, and held harmless for the consequences of this public health crisis.*

**MCS will evaluate student learning in the 9-13 Remote Learning Setting by:**

- engaging in regular communication with students to provide meaningful feedback and instructional support on completed work;
  - regular communication includes but is not limited to: phone conversations, reciprocal email communication, and contacts made through CANVAS, Google Classrooms, Google Websites, and Zoom.
  - teachers are supporting students by checking in with students several times per week regarding work participation and/or completion; teachers will monitor individual student progress and document this feedback on the teacher-student communication logs.
- grades will be given to students based on their efforts to participate in and/or complete assignments as given through CANVAS, Google Classrooms, Google Websites, and/or Instructional Packets.
  - grades will be determined based on the work attempted and/or turned in, communicating the work attempted and/or completed through online platforms, all the while, primarily focusing on the critical factors for effective remote learning mentioned above.
  - grades will be communicated in a way that we reflect to students and families that we value their time, value their effort, and value their work.

**Guidance for Final Grades in grades 9-13:**

In the event NC public schools do not reopen for face-to-face learning after May 15, additional statewide guidance for FINAL GRADING to ensure equitable treatment for all students will be provided by the State Board of Education.