

Conejo Valley Unified School District

Resolution #19/20-24: Grading During Emergency School Closures

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, the Governor of California declared a State of Emergency due to the outbreak and spread of a novel coronavirus (COVID-19); and

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020, the Governor of California issued an executive order directing all individuals living in the State of California to stay home or at their place of residence, with limited exception, until further notice; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020 the Conejo Valley Unified School closed schools to protect students and staff against the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, due to safety concerns and the need for ongoing social distancing, the State Superintendent of Public Instruction stated it appears students will not return to school campuses before the end of the 2019-2020 school year; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to ensure the continuation of public education, to the greatest extent possible, while maintaining the health and safety of the students and staff; and

WHEREAS, the Board is committed to continued teaching and learning, including assessment and evaluation of work, through alternative means during this prolonged period of school closure; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that the Superintendent have the tools to ensure the health, safety, and well-being of students, staff, and families on and off campuses, and to ensure the educational needs of all students are addressed through alternate locations or virtual learning environments;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that during this time of school closures, and until further notice:

The Unified Association of Conejo Teachers (UACT) and the Conejo Valley Unified School District (District) enter into this distance learning grading policy during the COVID-19 school closures.

The Parties recognize there is a need to close schools and move to alternative learning plans to allow for social distancing as recommended by public health officials to prevent the spread of illness arising from the coronavirus during the 2019-2020 school year.

The Parties agree that students being served through distance learning creates known and unknown hardships for some students and families. Therefore, the District in collaboration with UACT, creates this MOU to be reflective of hardships and potential inequities. Additionally, the District believes there should be “**no harm**” to students during the period of school closures due to the COVID-19 public health crisis.

In an effort to ensure that grading policies **hold students harmless** for their Spring Semester grades during the transition to and time of distance learning, the superintendent shall establish a temporary shift in grading practice to complete this 2019-2020 school year as follows:

1. CVUSD students' grades shall be locked as of the last grading period (Trimester 2 for 3-8 and grades recorded March 27 for 9-12) before school closures were implemented. Students' grades may NOT go down in percentage or letter grade from this imposed date through the last day of the Spring Semester, June 12, 2020.
2. CVUSD students' grades may *increase* with completed student work and/or assessments during this period of school closures. It is the expectation that students will complete assigned work and assessments during the school closure. Teachers are encouraged to accept make-up and late work, or alternative work products. Site and/or District Office personnel, as appropriate, will communicate with families of students who do not complete assignments. Teachers are encouraged to modify their grading categories (in Q or within any currently used grade program) to reflect the most effective and equitable ways of assessing student performance during distance learning. Such modifications should be in accordance and consistent with their grade levels/subject areas to be determined by established district and site leadership teams.
 - CVUSD high schools will retain letter grades as it is recognized that students may be counting on opportunities to increase their GPAs for college admissions or acceptance to other post-secondary programs. In addition, there is no guarantee that credit/no credit grades would NOT penalize students at some point in their post-secondary academic futures, so maintaining letter grades best secures our high school students' future opportunities. Teachers are encouraged to offer students opportunities to increase their grades and grade point averages.
 - Grades 3-8 will utilize a "Pass/No Pass" grading scale for all courses for the 3rd Trimester grades, with the exception of any high school credit bearing course which will include a letter grade as described within the high school section of this agreement. Students earning a 60%, D- or higher shall receive a "Pass" for that course.
 - Students in grades TK-2 will have standards-based reporting. Scores will be reported based on Distance Learning Essential Standards. No student shall be retained except as previously agreed or in K (where parents/guardians have the right to retain their student).
3. For students with an Individual Education Plan (IEP) and/or a Section 504 Plan, students will earn and be assigned marks (letter grades, Pass/No pass or standards based) as described above by grade span, and shall reflect the student's performance inclusive of all accommodations and supports made available "to the extent feasible" during distance learning.

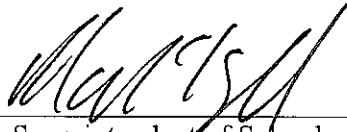
4. In order to best communicate with students and families during this temporary grading term starting the week of April 27th, teachers in grades 6-12 shall post assignments and points earned at least once a week in Q Gradebook for the remainder of this school year. Any work assigned or submitted prior to this date shall not be counted against a student's grade. Should any of this work raise a student's grade, teachers may use it for grade calculation considerations. Moreover, traditional Quarter 4 and Trimester 3 Progress Reports shall be issued May 8th, in which teachers must submit electronically for students who are in danger of not passing.

Passed and adopted this 5th day of May 2020, by the Governing Board of the Conejo Valley Unified School District.

Ayes: 5 Noes: 0 Absent: 0

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution duly passed and adopted by said Board of Education at the regular scheduled Board of Education meeting held on May 5, 2020.

Conejo Valley Unified School District



Superintendent of Schools

Conejo Valley Unified School District



Clerk of the Board