



Abilene Independent School District

PO Box 981 • Abilene, Texas 79604 • (325) 677-1444

TO: All Abilene ISD Stakeholders

FROM: Dr. David Young, Superintendent

DATE: April 1, 2020 (highlighted portions were added on 4/9/20)

RE: COVID-19 Grading Guidelines for Spring 2020 Semester

Grading Guidelines for Current Seniors

Fall 2019 Semester

- If a senior passed Semester 1, he/she earned 0.5 credit for each course passed.
- If a senior did not pass a course in Semester 1, the following applies:
 - If the first semester grade and the 4th six weeks grade are averaged together $[(1^{\text{st}} \text{ sem grade} + 4^{\text{th}} \text{ six weeks grade}) / 2]$ and comes out with a 70 or higher, then credit is awarded for first semester (grade that the student earned in the 1st semester stays on transcript/report card).
 - If the first semester grade and the 4th six weeks grade are averaged together $[(1^{\text{st}} \text{ sem grade} + 4^{\text{th}} \text{ six weeks grade}) / 2]$ and comes out below a 70, then credit is NOT awarded for first semester. In this case:
 - The senior must enroll in Edgenuity immediately to recover the fall semester credit.

Spring 2020 Semester

- Beginning the week of April 6, all seniors are required to submit six work samples from online coursework for each course. Teachers will not assign a numerical grade but will provide feedback. Seniors should submit six work samples as soon as possible, beginning on April 6. Our goal is to have all senior work samples submitted by May 1 (NOTE: Seniors who do not have **at least 4** work samples submitted by May 1 will receive a Progress Report grade of “F”, and will have until May 22 to submit work samples). Final grades will be awarded as follows:
 - Seniors who submit six work assignments in a course will receive a “P” (Pass) for the course for the spring 2020 semester.
 - Seniors who do NOT submit six work assignments for a course by May 22 will receive an “F” (Fail) for the course for the spring 2020 semester.
 - Seniors who receive an F in a course for which credit is needed for graduation will be required to recover the credit before the student will be eligible for graduation.

[NOTE FOR SENIORS: Any senior who had not previously met all EOC exam requirements will be invited to a virtual or phone GPC (Grade Placement Committee) meeting to discuss a plan.]

Grading Guideline for Students Currently Enrolled in Grades 9-11

Fall 2019 Semester

- If a 9th-11th grade student passed Semester 1, he/she earned .5 credit for each course passed.
- If a 9th-11th grade student did not pass a course in Semester 1, the following applies:

- If the first semester grade and the 4th six weeks grade are averaged together ($1^{\text{st}} \text{ sem grade} + 4^{\text{th}} \text{ six weeks grade} / 2$) and comes out with a 70 or higher, then credit is awarded for first semester (grade that the student earned in the 1st semester stays on transcript/report card).
- If the first semester grade and the 4th six weeks grade are averaged together ($1^{\text{st}} \text{ sem grade} + 4^{\text{th}} \text{ six weeks grade} / 2$) and comes out below a 70, then credit is NOT awarded for first semester. In this case:
 - The student must enroll in Edgenuity to recover the fall semester credit.

Spring 2020 Semester

- Beginning the week of April 13, all 9th-11th grade students are required to submit a work sample from online coursework for each course each week for six weeks (for a total of six work samples by May 22). Teachers will not assign a numerical grade but will provide feedback. Grades will be awarded as follows:
 - Students who submit six work assignments (one per week) in a course will receive a “P” (Pass) for the course for the spring 2020 semester.
 - Students who do NOT submit six work assignments (one per week) for a course by May 22 will receive an “F” (Fail) for the course for the spring 2020 semester.
 - Students who receive an “F” in a course for the spring 2020 semester will be required to recover the credit.

Grading Guidelines for Students Currently Enrolled in Grades 1-8

Spring 2020 Semester

- Beginning the week of April 13, all 1st – 8th grade students are required to submit a work sample from online coursework for each course each week for six weeks (for a total of six work samples per course by May 22). Teachers will not assign a numerical grade but will provide feedback. Grades will be awarded as follows:
 - Students who submit six work assignments (one per week) in a course will receive a “P” (Pass) for the course for the spring 2020 semester.
 - Students who do NOT submit six work assignments (one per week) for a course by May 22 will receive an “F” (Fail) for the course for the spring 2020 semester.

Grading Guidelines for Students Currently Enrolled in Kindergarten

Spring 2020 Semester

- Beginning the week of April 13, all Kindergarten students are required to submit a work sample from online coursework for each course each week for six weeks (for a total of six work samples per course by May 22). Teachers will not assign a numerical grade but will provide feedback. Pass/Fail grades will be **not** assigned for Kindergarten students and kindergarteners will **not** receive progress reports or final report cards.

Progress Report

Teachers for grades 1-12 will submit a progress report grade “P” or “F” at the end of three weeks of collecting student work samples (May 1st is the last day of the third week). Students in grades 1-11 who have submitted three work samples will receive a “P” and students who have



Abilene Independent School District

PO Box 981 • Abilene, Texas 79604 • (325) 677-1444

submitted less than three work samples will receive an “F.” Seniors who have not submitted all 6 work samples will receive an “F” on the progress report.

Work Samples

Teachers will use their professional judgment to determine if a work sample submission is acceptable. If it is obvious that the student didn't try at all, the teacher may ask for a resubmission. If an assignment has multiple parts and the student only completes one part, the teacher will accept the one part completed as the work sample and will not request a resubmission.

Grade Appeals During Covid-19

All grade appeals for students receiving an “F” for the spring 2020 semester during Covid-19 must be made directly to the head campus principal. The head campus principal has sole decision-making authority in handling miscalculations or late submissions (in favor of the student) based on a student/parent appeal through August 30, 2020. The decision of the campus principal may be appealed to the Office of the Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction on or before August 30, 2020. The decision from the Office of the Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction is final.

Grade Placement Committees

Head Campus Principals must hold a Grade Placement Committee for any student in grades K-8 in which retention is being considered. The Grade Placement Committee (which must include the parent) must consider the student's wholistic body of academic work/progress, including first semester numerical grades, second semester Pass/Fail grades, progress in IXL, MAP scores, STAAR performance from the prior year (if applicable), teacher perspective, and any other measure deemed appropriate by the GPC. The GPC should make the decision of what is in the long-term best interest of the individual child.

Summer School

While AISD anticipates that we will not be running a traditional summer school in June this year, summer learning will definitely be a priority for AISD this summer. We will be making decisions in the coming days and weeks about summer learning and will communicate information with you soon.

Final Course Grades

- For students who earned a P for the sixth six weeks, final course grades are determined by averaging together the first six weeks, second six weeks, third six weeks, fourth six weeks, and sixth six weeks (P=100) averages.
- For students who earned an F for the sixth six weeks, final course grades are determined by averaging together the first six weeks, second six weeks, third six weeks, and fourth six weeks averages.
- Students shall earn a full year of credit if the yearly average equals 70 or above on a scale of 100.

Earning High School Credits

- Fall 2019
 - Passed the Semester, **or**

- The average of your first semester average and fourth six weeks average is 70 or higher; **or**
- You recover first semester; **or**
- Your Final (year-end) average is a 70 or better
- Spring 2020
 - Receive a P for the second semester; **or**
 - Your Final (year-end) average is a 70 or better