

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 271 -- RESOLUTION 20-21-004

(19-20-004)

Resolution of the Coeur d'Alene School District Regarding Modification of Certain Instructional Grading and Reporting Requirements During the Spring of 2020

WHEREAS, on March 25, 2020, Governor Little declared a state-wide stay at home order and emergency declaration in all 44 counties in the State of Idaho in response to the imminent threat of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS the Coeur d'Alene School District closed its campuses on March 16, 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, ceased all in-person instruction and began providing instruction to students through a variety of at home learning methods, including remote learning; and

WHEREAS, not all students have reliable access to electronic devices and/or Internet connectivity with which to engage consistently and reliably in remote learning; and

WHEREAS, during this unprecedented public health crisis certain temporary modifications to the District's instructional grading and reporting requirements will alleviate academic pressure on students and facilitate the most equitable transition for all students to remote learning; and

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2020, the Idaho State School Board recommended that school districts begin a soft closure statewide, and

WHEREAS, on April 6, 2020, the Idaho State School Board recommended that the statewide soft closure be extended for the remainder of the respective district's calendar, or until such a time as local and state social distancing orders have been lifted and re-entry criteria established by the Board has been met.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Coeur d'Alene School District authorizes the temporary modification, during the Spring semester of 2020, of various provisions in Board Policies such as: Grading and Progress Reporting (2620, 2620P1), Academic Achievement (2420, 2450), Retention and Promotion (2600, 2601, 2601P), and Required Instruction (2603) in order to:

1. Ensure that no student is negatively impacted by district grading practices as a result of the COVID-19 related closures.
2. Ensure that elementary, middle school and high school students will receive regular and careful feedback to promote academic, as well as social and emotional growth and learning; and that they are prepared to be promoted to the next grade level.
3. Provide students enrolled in a high school credit bearing course a grade of Pass/Not Pass.
 - These credits shall be recorded on the academic achievement record but shall not be included in grade points nor be used in determining GPA or class rank.
 - In these cases, the students' Pass/Not Pass will be baselined as of their **March 13, 2020** gradebook.
 - Teachers will provide opportunities for student work to count during the closure if it will increase a student's academic standing. Student work completed during the school closure must not negatively impact a student's Pass/Not Pass relative to the **March 13, 2020** status.

4. Allow students enrolled in a high school credit bearing course the option, with parent/guardian authorization, to earn letter grades rather than Pass/Not Pass for their credits.
 - If students choose this option, they must choose all classes to be considered for grading rather than a course by course selection.
 - In these cases, the students' grades will be baselined as of their **March 13, 2020** gradebook.
 - Teachers will provide opportunities for student work to count during the closure if it will increase a student's academic standing. Student work completed during the school closure must not negatively impact a student's grades relative to the **March 13, 2020** grade.
 - Parents/Guardians must notify the school principal in writing by **June 1, 2020**, if they are selecting this option for their student.
 - Grades shall be recorded on the academic achievement record with grade points earned and used in determining GPA or class rank.
 - In situations where students may have not had access or opportunity to address this decision based upon their unique circumstances, each high school will provide an appeal process. All requests for appeal should be received no later than **April 30, 2021**. The intent of this appeal is not to reverse a previously made decision, but to provide allowances for students and families experiencing extended difficulties during the pandemic.

5. Ensure seniors graduate if they are "on track to graduate" and receive credit for the courses taken in the second semester. "On track to graduate" means between the student's scheduled classes this spring (including any scheduled credit recovery courses) and the student's accumulated credits as of the end of first semester, the student would meet the credit requirements for graduation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board delegates to the Superintendent the authority to make such additional modifications to Board policies and procedures, consistent with this resolution, as appropriate to facilitate remote learning during the Spring semester of 2020 in a manner that is fair, consistent and equitable for all students.

Approved this 20th day of April, by the Board of Trustees

By  Board Chair

Attest: 