



Expectations for Attendance and Grading during COVID-19 School Closure

Due to the extraordinary circumstances of this time period, the Lyncourt Union Free School District has determined no student should be penalized during the extended school closure for work either not submitted or work that is submitted and not completed to a certain standard. Expectations for work completion to a typical standard need to be relaxed and flexibility in grading enacted accordingly. According to the New York State Education Department, these decisions are to be made at the local level.

"Decisions on continuity of learning, including instructional decisions, methods, tools, curriculum, technology software and platforms, and resources utilized, are a local decision. The resources listed on the Continuity of Learning site are provided as options and examples only, in an attempt to provide helpful information. NYSED does not require, recommend, endorse, or advise on any specific program or product. All instructional decisions are made at the local level." -[Continuity of Learning Website](#)

Therefore, to complete Marking Period 3, we will hold students harmless. This means inability to complete assignments during the school closure period of 3/17-4/10 will not result in any penalty. Grades collected on completed work only, assigned through 3/16, will be used to calculate 3rd marking period grades. Missing and incomplete assignments will not be counted.

Due to the cancellation of Spring Break, the original Marking Period dates have been adjusted. Marking Period 3 will end Friday, April 10th. Marking Period 4 will begin on Monday, April 13th.

Expectations for Attendance and Instruction

Moving forward, teachers will take virtual "attendance" based on student submission of work, to the best of their ability. Teachers should keep a personal log for student attendance and work completion in their own records, not in School Tool. Instruction will take place daily, Monday-Friday for all core subject areas by:

- Posting of assignments on Google Classroom or platform Teacher utilized prior to the COVID-19 School Closure.
 - *For Special Area and intervention teachers this may take place through the Classroom/Core Teacher's Classroom or their own site.*
- Online office hours or access to teachers for additional support and individualized instruction.

In addition to the above, instruction may also include any of the following methods:

- Links to teacher-created videos.
- Live virtual instruction via online video conferencing platforms, (ex: Zoom, Facetime, or Google).
- Links to online learning activities, videos, and educational websites as outlined in the Lyncourt UFSD Continuation of Learning Plan.

Special Area teachers should provide continued instruction with their students according to their Day 1-6 schedule for Elementary grades and on a Day 1 and 2 schedule for Middle School. Online office hours, live instruction, or other access to teachers should be available for all students and families.

In the event a teacher is unable to provide instruction for a time period, they will notify Mrs. Davis to develop a plan for continued student learning.

Grading for Elementary and Middle School

When designing Marking Period 4 assignments, teachers will determine the course's learning standards targeted for each assignment. Students' assignments will be "graded" as follows:

- Complete = Student has executed the task to the course or grade level standard to the best of their individual ability.
- Incomplete = Student has partially executed the task, but not to their typical potential or ability. In this instance the student will be given feedback and offered access to additional support to complete the assignment.
- Missing = Student has not yet submitted the assignment.

Again, these grades and attendance should be kept in teachers' personal logs, not in School Tool. At the end of Marking Period 4 students will be given a Pass or Fail for the quarter based on the attainment of the standards instructed on and not the typical expectations for a normal learning situation.

Grading for Regents Courses and Spanish 1 only

According to the New York State Education Department,

"Earning Course Credit and Meeting Unit of Study Requirements", in districts where distance and online learning methods are available, or other continuity of learning strategies are utilized, the priority for the instruction should be that which best prepares students to meet the learning outcomes for the course and prepare for the culminating examination, if applicable. Any student who achieves the learning outcomes for the course should earn the applicable course/diploma credit without regard to the 180-minute/week unit of study requirement in Commissioner's Regulations Part 100.1. Further, in the event that extended closure interferes with a school or district's ability to provide the full unit of study by the end of the school year, either in face-to-face instruction or through other methods, as long as the student has met the standards assessed in the provided coursework, the student should be granted the diploma credit."

While we wait for additional guidance regarding Regents exams from SED, please keep grades for students in your own personal logs, beginning Monday, April 13th. Students should not be given a 0 or failing grade for any work attempted and should have extended time to complete any assignment.