**Gunter ISD Grading Guidelines During COVID-19**

**~ DRAFT ~**

**Philosophical Premises:**

* We understand this global pandemic has had **overwhelming impacts** on all of our families and we want to extend grace to students during this time of crisis.
* We understand that this shift to remote learning has impacted the **instructional integrity** and the **integrity of our grading system**.
* We understand that students have **varying levels of support and instructional resources at home**.

**Why Not Use Pass / Fail?**

* Pass/Fail does not provide all students with the opportunity to **raise their overall semester** average/GPA by being engaged in their learning this 4th nine-week grading period, including students who failed the 3rd 9wks.
* By going Pass/Fail, students would **lose the entire semester of weighted credit**, as rank is pulled from the semester average, which is a huge negative impact for our grades 9-11 students.
* The NCAA Clearinghouse treats a grade of **“Pass” as the lowest possible passing grade**. This could put our students who are interested in collegiate athletics at a disadvantage compared to students coming from districts that recorded numerical grades. College courses also look at a “pass” as a “C.”

**Secondary Grading Guidelines:**

* Teachers will assign 1-2 assignments per week during the remaining 8 weeks of school
  + **No less than 8 grades** per course during the 4th 9wks
  + **No more than 16 grades** per course during the 4th 9wks
* All grades will be recorded in the **Daily Grades** of the gradebook
* Any grade that is significant (test/project-like) will be a **double daily grade**
* **A designated number of grades will be exempted** for all students
  + 8-10 assignments: waive/exempt 1 assignment
  + 11-13 assignments: waive/exempt 2 assignments
  + 14-16 assignments: waive/exempt 3 assignments
* All assignments will have a **one-week timeframe** to complete / turn-in
* There will be an **additional week period of grace** beyond the initial deadline.
* There will be **no final exams** this semester.
* **The 4th 9wk average will not negatively impact student averages/GPA if a student attempts to participate and complete the work**. The 2020 spring semester average will be determined by the 3rd nine-week grade and the *higher*of the 3rd or 4th nine-week grade in most situations.  *\*See chart below*

**Spring Semester Hold-Harmless Averaging Examples**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 3rd 9wks Grade | 4th 9wks Grade | Semester Grade |
| Example 1  *Does better the 4th 9wks* | 80 | 90 | (80+90) / 2 = 85% Final Semester Grade |
| Example 2  *Does better the 3rd 9wks* | 84 | 74 | (84+84) / 2 = 84% Final Semester Grade  *(4th 9wks is not used in calculation)* |
| Example 3  *Fails the 4th 9wks* | 75 | 65 | (75+75) / 2 = 75% Final Semester Grade  *(4th 9wks is not used in calculation)* |
| Example 4  *Does better the 4th 9wks* | 60 | 80 | (60+80) / 2 = 70% Final Semester Grade |
| Example 5  *Student didn’t make a valid attempt at 4th 9wks* | 80 | 40 | *Student did not make a valid attempt to participate / complete work (min of 60%)*  (80+40) / 2 = 60% Final Semester Grade |
| Example 6  *Student failed both 9wks* | 50 | 50 | Student does not earn credit for the spring semester |