

Secondary Grades, Final Exams, GPA, and Transcripts

4.13.2020

Students to Receive Pass/Fail Grades

Based on the amended Hurst-Euless-Bedford Independent School District (HEB ISD) Grading Guidelines, students will be graded using a Pass or Fail criteria during the COVID-19 closure. This includes the 5th and 6th six weeks for the 2019-2020 school year. Grades will be posted in Home Access Center.

Transcript Grades

The 5th and 6th six-week grades (100% or 69%) will show up on the transcript, but will not be calculated into Grade Point Average (GPA). These grades will be included for institutions, such as NCAA or Post-Secondary, which look at transcript grades to calculate their own GPA for admission purposes.

State Mandated Tests

The Texas Education Agency canceled the 2020 STAAR and End-of-Course STAAR exams.

All Final Exams are Risk Free

Administration of final exams during this time of school closure is left to teacher discretion. HEB ISD has announced all final exams this year will be risk free. If a student chooses to take a final exam, the exam grade can only improve the student's opportunity to earn a passing score for the semester or trimester.

Senior Class Rank

Due to GPA being suspended during the COVID-19 closure, senior class rank will be based on the last grades prior to conversion to remote learning. For the 2019-2020 academic year only, the top 10, Salutatorian, and Valedictorian will be calculated on grades through the 2nd trimester, ending the 4th six weeks. This means the Pass/Fail grading plan adopted by HEB ISD during the closure has no bearing on the Class of 2020 and individual class rank.

Underclassmen Maintain GPA

The closure caused by COVID-19 is unprecedented for area school districts. There has been extensive discussion and collaboration about how to handle grades during remote learning. We reviewed factors such as the district's swift move to remote learning, teacher and student experience in remote learning, and student access to devices and Wi-Fi. In the

end, we decided the most equitable decision is to suspend GPA during the COVID-19 closure.

High School – HEB ISD is suspending GPA for underclassmen after the 2nd trimester (4th six weeks) for this year only. The 100% or 69% earned during the 3rd trimester will appear on the transcript, but will not affect the student's total GPA.

Junior High – HEB ISD is suspending GPA for underclassmen after the 1st semester (3rd six weeks) for this year only. The 100% or 69% earned during the 2nd semester will appear on the transcript, but will not affect the student's total GPA.

These measures ensure all underclassmen maintain their GPA or class rank to avoid negative consequences caused by the COVID-19 closures. We want to minimize the effect closure has on a student's grade point average or class rank. The intent of maintaining the current GPA is to reduce the stress and worry this extended closure might cause students and their parents.