

Monitoring Student Progress, Grading and Reporting

District Rationale & Philosophy

The Southwestern Central School District is committed to an approach based upon the principle of no educational harm to any child. Given diverse family life situations, resources, levels of support, mental health concerns, and technology access issues, grading work students have done at home via sudden, online lessons is inequitable and will not accurately measure student learning progress towards the standards (Wormeli, AMLE 2020). All determinations on grading practices were designed with this mindset and the issue of equity as the driver. This pandemic and the national suspension of traditional classroom teaching and learning has left us all in an unprecedented state regarding traditional teaching, learning, and grading practices. Our methodology for assigning grades during this time of crisis are derived from the Board of Regent's pass/incomplete recommendations (NOT pass/fail). While instruction is expected to continue during this remote learning period, we will not negatively impact students by giving a failing grade. The expectation is that student grades are not lowered because of remote learning. To this end, using an incomplete will allow students an opportunity to make work up when this period of remote learning ends. Further, a student who is not able to participate for any reason should receive an incomplete.

Grades K-5 3rd Trimester Report Card Update

For students in Grades 1-5, second trimester report cards will be sent home Friday, May 1st, with data and grades included up until March 13th. We will continue to use the standards-based report card levels 1-4. If students were not able to participate in remote learning at a level that makes it possible for teachers to assess, that student will receive an "Incomplete" on that area of the report card and decisions regarding promotion will be determined between the family, teacher and administration. Kindergarten will not include a second trimester report card, but will receive a final report card. The final report card for students grades k-5 will be based on feedback and progress monitoring collected during school closure, and any grades and data collected if we return back to school prior to the end of the school year.

*Adapted from the Irondequoit School District Grading Practices Plan