

From: [Raoul Bozio](#)
To: [David Fisher \(DFisher@saccityta.com\)](#)
Cc: [Christine Baeta](#); [Cancy McArn](#); [JBorsos@cta.org](#); [nmilevsky@saccityta.com](#)
Subject: RE: Sacramento City Unified Announces COVID-19 Grading Policy
Date: Tuesday, May 12, 2020 9:37:00 AM

Dear Mr. Fisher:

Thank you for your email. It appears SCTA believes there may be negotiable effects of the District's decision to modify the grading structure for the final quarter of the 2019-20 school year. The District is happy to speak with you about those effects that you identify that are negotiable. In order for the District's team to prepare for such meeting, please email me those effects of this decision that you believe to be negotiable. Thank you.

Best Regards,
Raoul Bozio
In-House Counsel
Sacramento City Unified School District
(916) 643-9097

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From: David Fisher [<mailto:dfisher@saccityta.com>]
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 1:26 PM
To: Christine Baeta <Christine-Baeta@scusd.edu>; Cancy McArn <Cancy-McArn@scusd.edu>; Raoul Bozio <Raoul-Bozio@scusd.edu>
Cc: Nikki Milevsky <nmilevsky@saccityta.com>; John Borsos <jborsos@cta.org>
Subject: Sacramento City Unified Announces COVID-19 Grading Policy

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Christine et al:

Below you will find an eConnect communication from the District to the broader Sac City community regarding the District announcement that it will be implementing a new grading policy for the final quarter or trimester of the 2019-20 during the period of Distance Learning.

Before this communication was sent, we received communication from the District which indicated that the District was considering these changes subject to its obligation to changes in working conditions with SCTA. This recognition of the District's requirement to bargain is consistent with your statement during our conversation on Tuesday, May 5. At that time, we raised concerns about rumors that had been circulating about a new grading policy. You responded that "No changes will be made without giving SCTA an opportunity to bargain over the changes." The e-Connection contained below appears to contradict both your statement of May 5, and the letter from the District of May 8.

Accordingly, please accept this email as SCTA's demand to bargain over the changes in working conditions that would result from the District's proposed new grading policy for the final quarter or trimester of 2019-20, and that such a change be placed on hold until such time that the parties have had an opportunity to bargain over the proposed changes.

David Fisher
SCTA

Sacramento City Unified School District eConnection Newsletter // SCUSD's Connect and Student Support Centers are Open to Help Families During this Pandemic

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Dear Sac City Unified Community,

This pandemic has been stressful, for parents, teachers, students – for all of us. Our schools are now a service more than a place, and our families are engaging in distance learning, a whole new way of learning. We recognize that many of the challenges that our families must overcome will be magnified during this health crisis.

We want to encourage continuity of learning and your child’s success – despite the challenging circumstances we share now.

As we move forward together, we want to be clear about our grading policy to minimize confusion and stress, while also protecting our students’ ability to succeed and encouraging ongoing connection and engagement.

This is why we have carefully considered how we would handle grading when it comes to distance learning. Our plan focuses on encouraging success – but not stress.

First we want to lay out the foundation of our grading during distance learning:

- **Students cannot receive a lower grade for participating in distance learning.** Final grades posted throughout the remainder of the academic year will not fall below their grade as of March 13. Students may view these grades online. Instructions about how to access online grades are below.
- **A student can raise their grade during distance learning.** This is an opportunity for students to improve their grades.
- **Our distance learning program focuses on essential standards. These standards are the building blocks for success.** We are deeply concerned about learning loss, or that our students will fall behind where they should be at the end of this academic year. It is a concern we have even when we traditionally adjourn or summer. That’s why it is important that our students engage and participate in distance learning, to minimize this learning loss.
- **Teachers will continue to provide assignments, grades and additional feedback to help improve student learning.**

As we move forward together, we want to be clear about our grading policy to minimize confusion and stress, while also protecting our students’ ability to succeed and encouraging ongoing connection and engagement.

Grading for K-6

Posted trimester 2 grades will reflect the standard grade earned as of March 13. Your K-6 student’s grade for the final trimester of the academic year cannot fall below the grade earned

as of March 13. However, if a student earns a higher standard grade in the last trimester, that will be the trimester 3 grade.

Grading for Secondary

Posted term 3 grades will reflect the grade earned as of March 13. The student's grade for the final term of the academic year cannot fall below the grade earned as of March 13. However, students will have the opportunity to raise their grade through distance learning. The hold harmless framework will apply to all final course grades including Advanced Placement Courses.

Adjusted Grading Scale for Distance Learning

We are revising the grading scale for Spring 2020 to reflect the challenge that many of our students face during this health crisis and the sudden change in learning environment. The scale will be amended as follows:

- **A = 80 percent to 100 percent**
- **B = 70 percent to 79 percent**
- **C = 60 percent to 69 percent**
- **D = 50 percent to 59 percent**
- **F = 0 percent to 49 percent**

Senior Projects

This graduation requirement is suspended. However, seniors may earn extra credit if they complete their senior project.

Student Engagement

To best meet the needs of our students, we must look at the whole child. Distance learning is not only focused on grades, but meeting the essential standards so that when we return to school, your child will be ready to succeed and move forward. We designed our distance learning program to help your child master these standards so they can advance and begin next year in the best position possible.

But that isn't the only thing we are teaching your child, whether in space or engaging through distance learning, we are supporting your students' academic, social and emotional needs. We know that your child needs support beyond academics. We're here to help meet your child's social and emotional needs as well. This is why your child's participation in distance learning is so important.

Credit/No Credit

Our school district adopted a modified grading scale rather than a credit/no-credit policy for several reasons:

- For students who have earned a high grade, such as an "A" as of March 13, we felt it would be unfair to convert that "A" to a "credit".
- Since students can only earn a higher grade replacing letter grades with a "credit" could have the opposite effect when it comes to engagement.
- Our decision is also looking at the future, and how a credit/no credit mark could potentially hamper our students' postsecondary options.

Dates for Progress Grading

Progress report grading will be May 8 through May 15 and will be available online.

How to access online report cards and progress grades

For the latest student report cards, we have decided to go paperless but want to make sure parents still have access to students' grades. The report card information will be available online through our Infinite Campus parent portal. You can access this information in real-time and from your home. Here is what you need to do to access your students' grades:

1. Visit our website at www.scusd.edu.
2. And, select **Infinite Campus**. Make sure to choose the **Student/Parent option**.
3. On the **log-in** page, choose the **Campus Parent option**.
4. Enter your username and password.
5. After you log in, click on the **Menu** option on the top left corner of your screen.
6. Go to **Documents**.
7. In the **Documents** page, there is a report card section, select the **Report Card template**.
8. A PDF document will be generated.
9. You can save, print, or view your students' grades.

If you do not have access to the parent portal, you can [submit](#) a request here to access the Infinite Campus portal. You can also view this video in English and Spanish to follow the instructions on how parents can access their child's report card. You can also visit our website at www.scusd.edu/report-cards to view this information.

To the extent required by law, the District will negotiate any effects of this change with its labor partners.

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