

IOLA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Scott Martindale
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Dear Secondary Parents & Guardians,

We wanted to communicate with you a few updates to grading during this unprecedented time.

As a district, our first priority is the success of all of our students! We want to give our students the best chance to receive credit and demonstrate mastery towards grade promotion. After much research and consideration, we have elected to use the following procedures for grade calculation during the **5th 6 weeks grading period**:

- Move all the daily and major grades from 4th 6 weeks into the 5th 6 weeks grading cycle.
- Teachers will post the new grade average, which will include the 4th and 5th 6 weeks assignments together.
- Teachers can use assignments submitted during the first and second week of the closure for extra credit, but students will not be penalized for not completing the online or paper-based work during the 5th 6 week grading period.
- Due to all the unforeseen challenges, the current Redo and Late Work policies will be temporarily suspended for the remainder of the school closure.

These procedures will allow teachers to have enough valid and reliable grades to show a fair and accurate representation of each student's 6 weeks average. We had several concerns about students not having enough grades to demonstrate subject mastery. We want to remind you that credit is earned based on semester average, not a single 6 weeks average.

*(*In the event the student's grade is lower with the 4th 6 weeks grades included, the 5th 6 weeks progress report grade will be substituted for the 5th 6 weeks final grade.)*

Students will only receive credit for each subject they complete successfully during this Spring Semester. A student's transcript will still reflect their Spring Semester grade and credit earned. However, the Spring Semester grade will NOT be calculated into their overall GPA or impact their future class ranking.

We have a few important updates for the **6th 6 weeks grading period**, as well:

- Be sure your students are checking their Google Classrooms (or receiving their paper packets) every Monday for each subject in order to locate their weekly assignments!
- **All assignments for the week are due by Friday at Midnight.** (Note: In order to prevent cross-contamination, students receiving Paper-based packets should still make every attempt to submit their work to their teachers online, by phone, or by email.)
- Please communicate with the course teacher for any and all needed extensions, or if you are experiencing technical difficulty and need extra time.
- Our teachers will primarily be using email to communicate with parents and students, therefore please check the email account you have provided to the school, regularly.
- The current Redo and Late Work policies will be temporarily suspended for the remainder of the school closure.

Please continue to encourage and support your students while they are working from home. Stay safe and healthy!

Kindest Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'BF', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Brian Fowler
Iola Secondary Principal