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RSU 57 prepares respectful, responsible and creative thinkers for success in the global community.

April 15, 2020

Dear Families of RSU57,

Thank you all for your ongoing support for continuous learning. Your child's sustained engagement for learning will be critical in ensuring their readiness for the coming academic year. Teachers and administrators have been painstakingly tuning the learning expectations of remote classwork so as to offer the greatest possible assurance of readiness through the intended progression of learning. Your continued support for the learning in your home will make a world of difference to these outcomes.

At this point, we know that remote learning will take us through to the end of the academic year. In order to support essential learning and maintain a focus on engagement, the following adjustments to grade reporting will be made in support of all learners for the remainder of the academic year 2019-2020:

Pre K - 5th Grades

Trimester III

Grade Reporting: Narrative (Comments) Only

This approach will serve to communicate important information to students, families and next year's teachers while maintaining a focus on continued learning

6th - 8th Grades

Trimester III

Grade Reporting Possibilities: Numerical or Pass/Incomplete

This will serve to maintain a focus on continued learning emphasizing feedback for learners toward grade/content learning outcomes. The majority of students will see a typical Trimester III report card with course GPAs and narrative comments. However, teachers will have the option to use "Pass" or "Incomplete" in lieu of a GPA course score for students who are unable to be assessed numerically. "Pass" would indicate a student who engaged in distance learning but was unable to complete course expectations due to circumstances beyond their control; "Incomplete" would indicate a student who did not engage in distance learning and was unable to be assessed numerically.

9th - 12th Grades

Semester II

Grade Reporting Possibilities: Credit/Credit with Distinction/Incomplete

This will serve to maintain a focus on continued learning emphasizing feedback for learners toward grade/content learning outcomes

Semester II of academic year 19-20 will not be factored into the GPA of any learner

Please see [Principal Hand's letter](#) with more information about MHS, specifically.

RSU 57 teachers and administrators have been giving careful thought to grading in the remote learning environment. We have studied approaches in districts across Maine, the country, and the world. The COVID-19 pandemic is truly a global event impacting school experiences everywhere. We are by no means unique in adjusting standard grade reporting practices. Both report cards and transcripts will contain qualifying statements explaining these unique circumstances and the necessary adjustments for years to come.

Our goal is to maintain the strong remote connections and routines that have been established over the past four weeks. Please continue to encourage your children to engage in class meetings with their teachers and classmates. We cannot emphasize enough how important these opportunities for connection are for your children and their classmates.

We are here to support your efforts. A reminder that a great many remote learning resources are housed on the RSU 57 [Remote Learning website](#). Your continued outreach and communication will ensure the best possible learning experience for your children. Please be in touch with your child's teacher or principal to let us know how we can support you!

Erica Mazzeo

Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment