

Good Afternoon,

Below is the Davenport School District letter communication on the grading system in place currently. If you have any questions or concerns please contact the school district either through email or phone (cprewitt@davenportsd.org or aabbott@davenportsd.org/725-4021). If your student is in need of learning materials due to slow internet access please let us know so we may accommodate your student's learning needs.

Dear Gorilla Families~

The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) recently announced new guidance and rules regarding student learning and grading. The following "Q & A" will help clarify questions that you may have.

Q: I heard on the news that students cannot receive a failing (F grade) for 4th quarter? This sounds too good to be true, I need clarification?

A: You are right on both accounts! It is correct that a student cannot receive a failing grade for 4th quarter, but the catch is that students must remain "ENGAGED" in their classes for the remainder of the school year to earn credit and remain on track to earn a high school diploma.

Q: Wait....what? You just said students cannot receive a failing (F grade) for 4th quarter, so why do they have to remain "engaged" in their school classes?

A: Schools are not closed to "distance learning", and the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) has mandated that "learning must continue", and that 4th quarter will proceed until the end of the year. The only change is that a student cannot receive a failing grade. However, students who do not remain "engaged" and check-out for 4th quarter can earn an Incomplete.

Q: I am afraid to ask, what does an "incomplete" grade mean for students?

A: Earning an "incomplete" means the student did not remain "engaged" or did not complete the class requirements to be awarded the credit for 4th quarter, and that they will have to make-up the work at some point to earn the credit.

The only thing an "incomplete" does is protect the student's GPA. Once the work is made up, the "incomplete" is changed to a letter grade.

Teachers will assign grades or assign an "incomplete" for 4th quarter. Students assigned an "incomplete" for a course will be given opportunities to re-engage in the learning standards in order to change their "incomplete" to a letter grade.

Q: So if I earn an “incomplete,” what options for make-up or re-engagement would be available to make up for the missing credit?

A: Options could include attending summer school, making courses up in the following term or year, online courses, etc. We will work with you and your parents/guardians to come up with a plan.

Q: That all sounds complicated! What is the easiest way for me to earn-credit and graduate on-time from Davenport High School?

A: The easiest way for you to earn credit, and graduate on time with your high school diploma is to remain “engaged” in the DHS “distance learning” program.

Connect via. Email, google classroom, or by phone with your teachers

If you have internet connection issues, contact the school and we will get you set up with materials in order to remain “engaged”

Sign-up for Mrs. Abbott’s and Mrs. Collins weekly “bulletin” list. Every Monday they will send out all assignments for every teacher for the entire week.

Contact: aabbott@davenportsd.org or ccollins@davenportsd.org

Teachers are only assigning “essential work” for you to earn credit. They are being extremely flexible and “forgiving” in this unprecedented time. In most cases, high school students should only have “3 hours” of school work a day, and in most cases less than that. Remember: In the hallway you were “engaged” for “7 hours” a day plus homework in the evening. Please take advantage of the “reduced” work and hour requirement now.

Note: Seniors, you HAVE to earn a letter grade to earn your HS Diploma and participate in the graduation ceremony.

Q: Okay, so how will grades work for secondary students for second semester & 4th quarter?

A: Davenport Middle School & Davenport High School have adopted the letter grade system of A, B, C, D, & Incomplete for the remainder of the year. Every student will get an opportunity to improve their grade with their March 17 status as a baseline. A student’s letter grade cannot go down from where it was when the closure occurred, it can only go up as long as they remain “engaged” and work with their teacher.

Q: So if I had “B” grade in 10th grade ELA when the school closed on March 17th, what happens to that grade now?

A: The “B” grade you earned before the March 17th school closure remains intact and cannot go down. However, there are two key points to remember, Students CAN only improve their “B” grade in this scenario by working with their teacher and communicating their goals.

REMEMBER: if you a student does not “engage” the student will earn an “incomplete” and have to make up the material that was missed to earn the credit. Once the student makes up the material the letter grade of “B” would be reinstated and issued on the high school transcript and credit would be awarded.

Q: How does this new grading information affect DHS students taking College in the High School classes through CWU or EWU?

A: The OSPI grading mandate does NOT APPLY to College in the High School courses. CWU & EWU will not be accepting “incompletes” for grading purposes. Only letter grades that reflect college level work will be accepted to earn college credit. High school credits and college credits are two very different things. The grades submitted by DHS teachers to CWU and EWU are required to reflect the proficiency on the college curriculum and do NOT follow the same OSPI mandates as high school course grades.

Therefore, even if an “Incomplete” is recorded on a DHS transcript, a much lower grade can be submitted to CWU or EWU by the same DHS teacher for the same student if a DHS student chooses not to complete assigned work and does not communicate with the DHS teacher to overcome any extenuating circumstances that might be present, such as internet challenges.

Students should contact Ms. Hawley or their college(s) ASAP if they are contemplating withdrawing from their college course(s).

Q: How does this impact Running Start students attending SFCC, SCC or EWU?

A: Running Start students have already started their online courses for Spring quarter, and expectations at the college level have not changed. Students will receive the grades they earn from the college and these grades will be credited to the high school transcript, whatever they may be.

Q: Are elementary and middle school students impacted differently than high school students since they aren’t yet earning high school credits toward graduation?

A: Students in Grades K-8: “Students in grades K–8 will be challenged to demonstrate effort and success in learning standards established by their teachers. Students will move on to the next grade, unless by mutual agreement between parents/guardians and teachers they agree to repeat a grade or a portion of learning missed.” ~OSPI Student Learning and Grading Guidance

We expect and hope that students will all stay engaged and check-in with their teachers regularly. Teachers are working to provide meaningful lessons to keep students on the right track to move to the next grade level. Please continue to work with teachers and administration for any accommodations or help you might need for your children. We recognize that everyone has different dynamics to get the work completed, and are here

to help! Teachers will be reaching out with office hours and class meeting times to help.

Q: My student is taking “Algebra I” in 8th grade for high school credit, will they automatically be moved up to geometry?

A: The student will need to remain “engaged” in their (Alg. I) class in order to earn a letter grade. The student will automatically go onto 9th grade next year. However, if they earn an “incomplete” for 8th grade (Alg. I), students will be asked to make up the missing content in the fall to receive credit.