



Ellensburg School District #401

1300 East Third Avenue
Ellensburg, WA 98926
www.esd401.org
Phone 509-925-8000
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Dear ESD High School Parents and Students,

The Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) issued new guidance Tuesday night regarding the required grading practices within the state of Washington during the COVID-19 School Closures. The key tenets of OSPI's approach to teaching and learning during this time are to use **compassion, communication, and common sense**. OSPI grounded these emergency rules for grading in **equity, fairness, and accuracy**.

Ellensburg School District will be following the basic requirements from OSPI and the State Board of Education with grades 9–12 and middle school students taking credit-bearing high school level work. Those guidelines are as follows:

OSPI Guidelines

- **Do no harm!**
- Every student will get an opportunity to improve their grade with their March 17 status as a baseline.
- No student will receive a "pass," "fail," or "no credit" grade for any course.
- Teachers will assign grades or assign an "incomplete" for students that cannot engage in an equitable way.
- Every class taken during the closure period will be given a statewide designator on the high school transcript to demote the unique environment in which the course was taken.
- All students will be given an opportunity to engage in continuous learning to maintain or improve their mastery of essential standards.

ESD Expectations:

- We expect all students to engage with their learning through the school closure to the best of their ability and to maintain their engagement with staff to further their learning. What you do today will prepare you for what happens tomorrow!!!

Incompletes:

- If a student earns an "incomplete" for a course they will be given an opportunity to receive a grade and their credit. Counselors and administrators can provide assistance in working through that process.

The Ellensburg School District does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.

The following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination: Kim Snider, Title IX Coordinator and Civil Rights Coordinator, 509-925-8007, kim.snider@esd401.org and Section 504 Coordinator, Kelly Kronbauer, 509-925-8011, kelly.kronbauer@esd401.org, 1300 East Third Avenue, Ellensburg, WA 98926.



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Reporting of Grades:

- Teachers will be providing assignments, assessments, and feedback to students through the closure.
- Students and parents can still use Skyward to track student performance and coursework.
- Students will receive one of the following grade marks:
 - A
 - B
 - C
 - D
 - I (Incomplete)
 - +/- will apply
 - *for students that have previously arranged P/F we are working on a resolution.

You can hear State Superintendent Chris Reykdal explain this new ruling in [this](#) video. Additionally, you can read the written version of OSPI's Student Learning and Grading Guidance [here](#).

In ESD we are focusing on developing a system that creates supportive connections with students and offering continuous learning related to a handful of critical understandings or standards that are necessary to ensure a successful transition to the classes that students take in the 2020-2021 school year or successful transition to post secondary pursuits. We appreciate your support and are grateful for your partnership in ensuring that all students successfully cross the finish line of this 2019-2020 school year.

Sincerely,

Beau Snow, Principal of EHS

Jinger Haberer, Superintendent of ESD

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