

May 21, 2020

Dear SWHS Families,

During the fourth quarter (Q4), students have been receiving grades for their distance-learning assignments which will all be calculated as part of a traditional Q4 grade. Due to the unique circumstances we are experiencing, a "Pass/No Pass" option will be available for families to consider in lieu of a traditional Q4 grade. Starting Wednesday, May 27th - Friday, June 5th, parents/guardians will have the opportunity to request a Pass/No Pass instead of a numerical grade for the 4th quarter for any course. These requests can be made via a Google Form (which will be sent to parents/guardians on the morning of the 27th). Please note, "Pass/No Pass" will only be an option for Q4, not for an entire course.

How does Pass/No Pass work?

When a parent/guardian makes a request for a Pass/No Pass, it will be received by the student's school counselor. This request will then be shared with the classroom teacher.

At the end of Q4, the classroom teacher will input a "P" or "NP" as the Q4 grade based on the cumulative grade at the end of the quarter. Specifically:

Numerical grades 60% or higher will be converted to "P". The "P" is what will be seen as the 4th quarter grade on the report card.

Numerical grades 59% or lower will be converted to a "NP". The "NP" is what will be seen as the 4th quarter grade on the report card.

If I choose Pass/No Pass for Q4, what does this mean for the final grade for the course?

If you choose a Pass/No Pass grade for your child's Q4 grade in a particular course, this will then NOT be included as part of their final grade for the course.

For year-long courses, the final grade will be based solely on Quarter 1, Quarter 2, Quarter 3, and the midterm exam.

For second semester courses, the final grade will be based solely on Quarter 3.

What if I choose NOT to select Pass/No pass for courses?

If there is NO request for Pass/No Pass, then the final grades for courses will include:

For year-long courses, the final grade will be based on Quarter 1, Quarter 2, Quarter 3, Quarter 4, and the midterm exam.

For second semester courses, the final grade will be based on Quarter 3 and Quarter 4.

I noticed there is no reference to final exams in the previous question...am I missing something?

You are not missing anything. There will be no final exams administered in any courses at the end of this school year.

We also hope the chart below provides answers for some topics you may be curious about:

GPA

If your child chooses a P/NP, the Q4 will not be factored into GPA for the 2019-2020 school year. For full year courses, the Cumulative Weighted GPA will use all data from Q1 - Q3 and midterm exam. For spring semester courses, only the Q3 will be factored into the GPA. GPA calculations will remain as usual if you do not choose P/NP.

Honor Roll

In light of the unique and challenging circumstances, Honor Roll will be eliminated for Q4.

Athletic Eligibility

Regardless of letter grade or P/NP, student-athletes will not be affected by this decision. The traditional method of determining eligibility will still be utilized. (Student-athletes must earn 6 credits per year to remain eligible for athletics the next school year. A student-athlete earning less than 6 credits at school year's end can earn summer school credits to regain athletic eligibility for the next school year. Fall sports eligibility for all returning student-

athletes is determined solely on 6 credits being earned during the previous school year. All incoming freshmen will also be eligible for the start of fall sports. In addition, any student-athlete who has below a 2.0 GPA when quarter report cards are distributed will be placed on academic probation for the next quarter. *Please refer to the Athletic Handbook (pages 6 & 7) for a more detailed explanation.)

Please know, this is a reference to our current policy for eligibility, this is not an indication of whether fall sports will be able to take place (a CIAC decision).

Final Transcripts

As a matter of course, SWHS transcripts never show individual quarter grades; only final grades for any given course. These final grades are the only grades seen by post-secondary institutions (universities, colleges, etc.).

Higher Education

All colleges and universities (and other post-secondary institutions) are understanding of the unique circumstances being experienced by high school students. As previously mentioned, SWHS transcripts do not show quarter grades; only final grades are reflected. In addition, SWHS transcripts will denote the details of the Covid-19 closure.

I still have additional questions, who is the best person to contact?

If you have additional questions or are not sure what is the best option for your child, please reach out to their school counselor for guidance on your student's specific circumstance(s). For School Counselor contact information, please [click here](#).

Sincerely,

Frank Rizzuto
Principal
South Windsor High School