

Cypress-Fairbanks ISD

Learning at Home Grading Guidelines

CFISD's goal during this unprecedented and challenging time continues to be supporting our students with their continued learning. The Texas Education Agency has charged us with instructional continuity for our students that includes continued instruction as well as monitoring and assessing progress. Although our school buildings remain closed, our teachers continue to plan, provide, review and support student learning while students learn at home.

The week of April 13 teachers began assessing student mastery of selected concepts. Prior to this week, students and teachers were adjusting to the new instructional platforms. With the extension of the *Learning at Home* program through the end of the school year, information previously shared regarding marking period 4 grades along with additional information about end-of-year performance/semester average is provided below.

Pre-K through 1st Grade

Marking Period 4:

- Teachers will record the weekly completion of selected learning assignments in each content area from the *Learning at Home* curriculum (curriculum packet or online).
- No weekly completion will be recorded for the last week of school May 26-28.
- Students will either receive "Mastered" or "In Progress" for the 4th marking period. "M" will indicate areas that students have demonstrated mastery. "IP" will indicate areas in which students are still working toward mastery.

End-of-Year Performance:

- Students will either receive "Mastered" or "In Progress" for the yearly average on the final report card. "M" will indicate areas that students have demonstrated mastery during the year. "IP" will indicate areas in which students are still working toward mastery.

2nd through 5th Grade

Marking Period 4:

- Teachers will take one grade per week in each content area from the Learning at Home curriculum (curriculum packet or online) which has been provided.
- Students will receive a weekly grade in each content area (Reading, Writing, Math, Science, Social Studies).
- All grades will be weighted equally.
- No grades will be recorded for the last week of school May 26-28. Students with a failing average will have an opportunity to complete alternative assignments during this time.
- The Marking Period 4 grade in each content area (Reading, Writing, Math, Science, Social Studies) will be determined by averaging six equally weighted grades and assigning the final marking period grade based on the table below:

Average of 6 grades during MP4	Final Marking Period 4 Grade
90-100	100
70-89	89
0-69	69

End-of-Year Average:

In grades 2-5, the End-of-Year average will be calculated by averaging all four marking periods together.

	Marking Period 1	Marking Period 2	Marking Period 3	Marking Period 4 Average	Final Marking Period 4 Grade	End-of-Year Average Calculation
Example 1	83	77	80	82	89	$\frac{83 + 77 + 80 + 89}{4}$
				<i>becomes</i> →		
Example 2	92	85	90	91	100	$\frac{92 + 85 + 90 + 100}{4}$
				<i>becomes</i> →		

6th through 12th Grade

Marking Period 4:

- Teachers will take one grade per week over the teacher delivered lesson. The weekly lesson will be aligned with the *Learning at Home* curriculum (curriculum packet or online), Advanced Placement curriculum, or course TEKS.
- Students will receive a weekly grade per course for the 4th marking period.
- The grades are equally weighted and no final exams will be given in high school courses.
- No grades will be recorded for the last week of school May 26-28. Students with a failing average will have an opportunity to complete alternative assignments during this time.
- The Marking Period 4 grade will be determined by averaging six equally weighted grades and assigning the final marking period grade based on the table below:

Average of 6 grades during MP4	Final Marking Period 4 Grade
100	100
90-99	99
80-89	89
70-79	79
0-69	69

Final Spring Semester Average:

The spring semester average will be calculated by averaging the marking period 3 grade and the final marking period 4 grade.

Semester Average Examples:

	Marking Period 3 Average	Marking Period 4 Average	Final Marking Period 4 Grade	Spring Semester Average Calculation
Example 1	80	82	89	$\frac{80 + 89}{2}$
		<i>becomes</i> →		
Example 2	80	91	99	$\frac{80 + 99}{2}$
		<i>becomes</i> →		

Frequently Asked Questions

Did Cypress-Fairbanks ISD consider a Pass/Fail option for the spring semester?

District leaders thoroughly considered all options. Recording numerical grades for secondary students was determined to be best for our students because:

- *Pass/Fail does not provide all students with the opportunity to raise their overall semester average/GPA by being engaged in Learning at Home during the 4th marking period.*
- *Having numerical grades for each semester allows high school students in year-long courses to earn full credit if the average of the two semesters is 70 or higher. This averaging, which helps students, could not occur if students received “Pass” or “Fail” for the spring semester average.*
- *The NCAA Clearinghouse treats a grade of “Pass” as the lowest possible passing grade. In adjusting for the unique situation current seniors are facing due to COVID-19, the NCAA has announced students with a “Passed” semester course will be awarded 2.3 points for passing only if it helps the student’s Core GPA. If a numerical grade is not recorded for the semester, students who were on pace to earn an A or a B for the semester would not receive the benefit of additional points in their Core GPA.*

Will students complete STAAR and End-of-Course (EOC) tests?

Grades 3-8 STAAR and EOCs will not be given this spring or summer. Normally, passing an EOC test is a graduation requirement. However, this school year only, students currently enrolled in EOC-tested courses (English I, English II, Algebra I, Biology and U.S. History) will not be required to complete the corresponding EOC test provide they earn course credit during the 2019-2020 school year.

What will the grading practices be in Dual Credit courses?

Students enrolled in Lone Star College will follow the college guidelines for the class. The CFISD 4th marking period average will be based on six equally weighted grades.

Will students be given the opportunity to redo an assignment with an F?

Yes, teachers will work with all students to provide opportunities to pass the grading period and semester.

Will semester exams be given for high school courses?

No, semester exams will not be administered for high school courses.

How will my high school student’s GPA be determined for the second semester?

The spring semester average will be used to calculate GPA.