

# Frequently Asked Questions

## END OF YEAR GRADING AND STUDENT PROMOTION

Approved-NC State Board of Education-April 23, 2020

### Why did the NC State Board of Education create this grading policy?

- State leaders believe it is important that grading policies positively impact as many students as possible, validate the efforts of students and all those supporting remote learning, and address issues of equity and excellence.
- It is the intention of this policy to ensure no students receive a failing grade and that students' grades as of March 13 serve as a minimum or a hold harmless point.

### Will my child receive final grades for this school year?

#### Elementary Students-Grades K-5

- Grades K-5 students will not receive a final grade.
- Teachers will provide year-end written feedback for students/families based on their learning this school year.
- School district leaders will decide the format for this feedback.
- Academic and social/emotional feedback will be used to help transition students into the new school year.

#### Middle School Students-Grades 6-8

- Grades 6-8 students will receive a final course grade of **PC19 (Pass)** or **WC19 (Withdraw)**.
- Teachers will provide year-end written feedback for students based on their learning this school year.
- School district leaders will decide the format for this feedback.
- Academic and social/emotional feedback will be used to help transition students into the 2020-2021 school year.
- WC19 does not mean the student failed the course and does not imply grade retention for middle school students. WC19 means there is a lack of evidence the student mastered the course standards.
- Middle school students enrolled in high school courses will follow grading options listed below: Students will receive course credit but, as in existing policy, the grade will not be counted in the GPA calculation.

#### High School Students-Grades 9-11

- Students in grades 9-11 and non-graduating seniors will choose how each final course grade will appear on their transcript for their currently enrolled courses, year-long and semester courses. If students cannot be reached to make a choice, they will be permitted to do so after school buildings re-open.

#### Option 1:

- Report the numeric grade, their highest grade representing either their learning as of March 13 or as improved through the semester as remote learning continued.
- Students will receive course credit.
- The numeric grade and quality points for each course will be used to calculate GPA.

#### Option 2:

- Report a PC19 or WC19.
- Students opting to receive a PC19 will receive course credit.
- PC19 or WC19 will not impact GPA.
- WC19 receives no course credit but students could take advantage of future credit recovery or repeating a course for credit.

### Will my child be promoted to the next grade?

- Student promotion and retention will remain the decision of the school principal and staff.
- Schools will primarily focus on those retention cases that were already well underway prior to March 13 for reasons other than the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic issues.

**NOTE: Grading for graduating seniors will follow the policy adopted by the State Board of Education on March 27, 2020.**

