

# Assessment, Marks and Final Grades

# Minister's Message: Grade Progression and Report Cards

- ▶ Each student will get final grades and a report card appropriate to their grade level. Teachers will assess a student's progress and assign a final grade.
- ▶ School authorities will consult with parents and inform them how assessment will be determined in this unique circumstance.
- ▶ All students who were on track to progress to the next grade will do so.
- ▶ Where possible, schools will work with high school students to complete their courses to the best of their ability, providing a final mark and awarding credits.
- ▶ Principals can award unallocated credits for students to progress to the next grade level if a student is unable to complete a course that would have allowed them to progress.

# Minister's Message: High school diploma criteria

- ▶ Students on track for 100 or more credits are still eligible to graduate and get a high school diploma. Principals can award up to 15 unallocated credits to students in Grade 12 if who were negatively impacted by class cancellations.
- ▶ Schools will work with students to complete courses underway. They will provide a final mark and award credits.
- ▶ If a student is unable to complete a course that would have led them to achieve a high school diploma, such as a work experience or a career and technology studies course, principals can award unallocated credits to ensure the student graduates.

# Is every student getting a free pass to the next grade?

- ▶ No, students are still expected to continue with their studies for the rest of the school year (essential learning outcomes)
- ▶ We expect students to put a reasonable effort into their work right through until the end of June.
- ▶ Teachers will work with students to meet their needs as the situation warrants.
- ▶ Simply advancing students would give students no incentive to participate in alternative learning and cause difficulties for them at the next level.
- ▶ Many courses rely on the skill and knowledge developed in previous grade levels.
  - ▶ For instance, Grade 10 Math relies on skills and content acquired from a full Grade 9 Math course.
  - ▶ Teachers are very aware of the developmental progressions from grade to grade and are applying their professional understanding to teach what they have determined to be the most crucial pieces.

# How will teachers mark students' work?

- ▶ *“Teachers will be responsible for assessing a student’s progress and assigning a final grade.”*
- ▶ Students will receive benefit of the doubt in these unique situations.
- ▶ In general, teachers will ask students to complete tasks that reveal their learning. Like all assessment of learning, this can be done in many different ways and it will vary from grade to grade and subject to subject.
- ▶ Final marks will be based on assessment of work completed. Incomplete, or missing work, will only be considered in the final grade once the processes in Administrative Procedure 360 have been followed.
  - Teachers are encouraged to use professional judgment to determine the final grade.
  - Principals will continue to work with teachers and assist them with making professional decisions about students’ academic progress.

# How will teachers mark students' work?

- ▶ For students who are not consistently engaged in their learning:
  - ▶ The student will receive a final grade using evidence collected prior to school closure and will move on to the next grade.
  - ▶ The student is brought to the attention of, and discussed with, school administration.
  - ▶ The teacher continues attempts to engage with the student until the end of the school year.
  - ▶ Parents/Guardians are contacted regularly until the end of the school year.
  - ▶ A comment is provided, in PowerTeacher Pro, indicating:
    - ▶ the final grade reflects achievement based on learning prior to school closure

# Pre-kindergarten (PALS)

- ▶ As in previous years, pre-kindergarten (PALS) teachers will complete a final update and review of each student's Individualized Support Plan (ISP) and discuss with parents.

# Elementary (K-6)

- ▶ PowerTeacherPro (PTP) will be used to report final grades.
  - ▶ Training will be provided to all elementary teachers on May 15.
  - ▶ Training will take approximately 45-60 minutes.
  - ▶ Teachers will continue to use their current system for recording individual grades. PowerTeacherPro's gradebook will not be utilized.
- ▶ A cumulative final grade will be reported for ELA/FLA and Math.
  - ▶ The CSL Achievement Scale will continue to be used to evaluate student achievement
  - ▶ Only one grade is reported for each subject (no categories).
  - ▶ Comments in Math and ELA/FLA should focus on an area of strength and a next step to keep consistent with our CSL report card.



# Elementary (K-6)

- ▶ Science and Social
  - ▶ Grades 1 to 3 - the final grade is determined by evidence gathered from term 1 and 2
  - ▶ Grades 4 to 6 - the final grade is determined by evidence gathered from all three terms (Terms 1-3) where possible.
  - ▶ Comments in Grade 4 to 6 Social Studies and Science should highlight the outcome(s) covered in term 3.
- ▶ Other Subjects will not be reported on; including learner attributes
- ▶ Classes will continue until June 19, 2020

# Junior High - Grades 7-9

- ▶ Final grades will be provided for all core. A final grade is determined by evidence gathered throughout the duration of the course
- ▶ Full-year complementary courses will receive a final grade based on evidence collected up to and including the last day of regular scheduled classes (March 13, 2020)
- ▶ Decision required by the Board on whether percentage grades or letter grades are used for final marks
- ▶ Cumulative assessments remain at the discretion of schools.
  - ▶ Weighting of final cumulative assessments will not exceed 10% of the student's final grade - weightings of other categories may need to be adjusted accordingly.
  - ▶ Cumulative assessments may need to be revised to reflect the outcomes that received instruction.
  - ▶ Classes will continue until June 19, 2020; there will be no formal exam break.

# High School

- ▶ Schools will work with students, so they are able to complete courses to the best of their ability, providing a final mark and credits.
- ▶ Students will receive benefit of the doubt in these unique circumstances:
  - ▶ All students who were on track to progress to the next course will do so.
  - ▶ Students will be offered multiple opportunities to improve their learning and grades.
  - ▶ Final marks will be based on assessment of work completed. Incomplete, or missing work, will only be considered in the final grade once the processes in Administrative Procedure 360 have been followed.
  - ▶ The final grade is determined by evidence gathered throughout the duration of the course.
    - ▶ Any final grade ending in an 8 or 9 will be rounded up to the nearest 10. (ex. 48 rounded to 50, 78 rounded to 80.)
    - ▶ To address validity of the final grade, it is encouraged that evidence gathered during school closure includes conversation and observation.

# High School

- ▶ Cumulative assessments remain at the discretion of schools.
  - ▶ Weighting of cumulative assessments will not exceed 10% of the student's final grade - weightings of other categories may need to be adjusted accordingly.
  - ▶ Cumulative assessments may need to be revised to reflect only the outcomes that received instruction.
  - ▶ Classes will continue until June 19, 2020; there will be no formal exam break.

# High School

- ▶ For students who are not consistently engaged in their learning:
  - ▶ The majority will pass the course and receive credit.
  - ▶ They must be brought to the attention of school administration to determine the final grade and subsequent course placement.
  - ▶ Parents will be contacted regularly until the end of the school year.
  - ▶ A comment must be provided, using PowerTeacher Pro, indicating: the final grade does not reflect the full scope of learning required in the course.

# High School

- ▶ For students who do not engaged in alternative learning:
  - ▶ Principals have the ability to work with individual students to ensure decisions are made to move students to the next appropriate course and potentially not receive credit.
  - ▶ In the case that a principal is recommending a student does not pass the course and receive credit, the principal needs to submit written rationale to the Superintendent and Associate Superintendent of SFS, for approval