



SUPERINTENDENT
Charlotte Seals

BOARD OF EDUCATION
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Dear Parents,

Madison County Schools campuses will remain closed and distance learning will continue through the remainder of this school year, in accordance with the governor's order. Thank you for your adaptability as we have transitioned to distance learning. We are so thankful for the commitment of our parents. You are vital partners in our mission to ensure that high quality instruction continues despite our circumstances.

Now that the timeframe of distance learning this school year is certain, I am reaching out to share with you our approach to grading and promotion for the fourth quarter. A task force of principals representing all grade bands and all zones was formed to assemble guidelines for grading, promotion, and retention during the pandemic. Teachers provided input to their principals, who in turn gave feedback to the task force. The principles of equity and fairness guided the creation of the district's grading, promotion, and retention plan, balanced also with the importance of acknowledging and rewarding each student's hard work.

For students in grades 3-12, the grade earned for term three will be the lowest grade a student can earn in term four. Each student may earn up to an additional ten points above his or her third term grade in the fourth term through distance learning assignments. While district policy concerning promotion remains in effect, for our K-2 students some adjustments are being made to the independent reading level and the mastery percentage currently required for promotion. If you have specific questions or concerns about promotion, please reach out directly to your child's principal.

As the end of the semester draws near, I know many of you are concerned about graduation and honoring our Class of 2020. I, too, share those feelings of disappointment and sadness for our seniors. Know that I am committed to providing a graduation experience for this year's graduates. We would like to hold graduation ceremonies as closely as possible to the originally scheduled dates, but because no one knows what the month of May will bring, we are collaborating with the high school principals to explore a variety of different dates and options. Thank you for your patience as we continue to monitor the health and safety situation in our community, as well as government orders, before making definitive plans. We are in this together, and we all stand with the Class of 2020.

Sincerely,

Charlotte A. Seals
Superintendent
Madison County Schools