

TEACHING AND LEARNING

GRADING/ASSESSMENT

Grading and Assessment during the 2020-2021 school year will continue in the same way as the previous school year ended. This policy accounts for the unique stress and various circumstance our school community will deal with throughout the year. This policy will be remain in place in order to maintain and assist with the social/emotional health of all students.

ELEMENTARY:

Standards-Based Grading is generally used in Elementary and will continue. Per NYSED recommendations, the skills/standards that are covered should be Foundational (essential standards to be covered in grade level). Teachers should implement or continue to utilize a system with a tiered determination of mastery:

- (M) Mastered
- (D) Demonstrating Mastery
- (NI) Not Introduced
- (IP) Insufficient Progress

Retention and promotion decisions would be made based on mastery of foundational skills and standards.

Quantitative Grades (through Power School) will be kept in order to track work completion/engagement to keep students/families aware of progress, but the final record will be standards based.

SECONDARY:

1. Per NYSED recommendations, the skills and standards that are covered through Distance/Hybrid Learning should be Foundational (essential standards to be covered in course).
2. College Level Courses will follow the institutions guidelines for grading.
3. Numeric grades will continue to be computed and will continue to be recorded and averaged as normal. This will allow for the least amount of change for students and maximum amount of teacher flexibility during the school year.
4. Assessments will be modified (where appropriate) to account the uniqueness of the school year. Application of knowledge will be prioritized knowing that students will rely on outside resources and technologies.
5. At the end of the course the parent and student will have the opportunity to request that their numeric grade be changed to a pass/fail. The pass/fail option would have no impact (positive or negative) on GPA. This allows for the student to record the most positive outcome on their final transcript.

PREKINDERGARTEN

Fishers Island School Prekindergarten Program will continue to enroll 3 and 4 year olds for half-day learning. The program continue to be run by a New York State certified teacher. Teaching Assistant support will be provided to help manage social distancing and classroom procedures for our youngest students.

The following health and safety guidance will be implemented:

- Family style eating will not be practiced due to social distancing requirements and for health and safety requirements.
- Classroom is equipped with an interior bathroom for exclusive use. Proper hand washing protocols will be followed.
- Center-based and small group learning is a critical component of a Prekindergarten instructional program. FIS will:
 - avoid centers that include multiple students using it at one time, such as water/sand tables, sensory tables, etc.
 - provide students with individual sets of materials to avoid sharing of common items
 - follow proper sanitation guidelines from the Department of Health after children have been at a learning center or in small groups.

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CONTINUITY OF LEARNING



Communication of Expectations:

- Parent notifications through Power School and Google Classroom
- Virtual Update Meetings with Principal/Parents on Wednesdays (posted to the school website for later viewing)
- School Messenger for time-sensitive or critical updates
- Weekly Email on Fridays (Digital Backpack)
- Engagement Chain of Notification/Support- Classroom Teacher -> School Counselor -> School Principal

Tracking of Interactions/Engagement in Hybrid or Digital Learning:

- Tracking daily attendance
- Maintaining typical grading in High School (Grades 7-12) as much as possible
- Biweekly Progress Reports

Digital Learning Time Expectations:

- 3 hours of work/face to face class time for Elementary Students
- 180-225 minutes a week for all High School Courses

Teacher/Student Interactions during Hybrid or Digital Learning:

- Teacher office hours, virtually (online) via video conferencing and/or chat, and/or phone
- Scheduled teacher/student(s) check-ins, virtual (online) and/or via phone
- Asynchronous communication, feedback, and support via e-mail or LMS

Methods of Instruction during Hybrid or Digital Learning:

- Hard copy (paper) instructional materials provided to students
- Instructional materials provided via technology, such as posted on a teacher website or available through an LMS
- Individual or small group synchronous instruction facilitated using technologies such as telephone or video conferencing
- Large-group or whole class synchronous instruction facilitated using technologies such as telephone or video conferencing
- Recorded instruction disseminated through technology, including via podcast, dedicated website, or Learning Management System, scheduled or on demand television, DVD/CD
- Online learning course, accessed through an LMS, self-directed and self-paced

Learning Materials and Content:

- Paper textbooks, and other content (books, magazines, etc.)
- Digital copies of textbooks
- Digital content and activities provided by the district, either free or subscription-based
- Online learning courses or course content modules

Instructional Devices:

- Laptop/Chromebooks will be provided to all students K-12 Grade
- Work with the local utility company to provide upgraded Internet bandwidth for all students
- Provide all teachers with a computing device