



Andrew G. Houlihan, Ed.D. – Superintendent

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Dear Senior Parent or Guardian,

The information below pertains to high school seniors only.

Thank you for your patience, understanding, and support during these unprecedented times surrounding COVID-19. We know that you have many questions and probably some apprehension about your student's senior year of high school. Everyone is eager to get updated information and understand what is next during this critical time.

It is our hope to provide you with accurate information in as timely of a manner as possible. This has been challenging due to the rapidly changing dynamics of school closures, as well as the fact that many of our questions do not have answers.

It is our goal with this letter to update you with the information we know at this time. Please be sure to read this information carefully and contact your school's principal if you have any specific questions.

Course Credit and Graduation

The Senior Class of 2020 will be eligible to graduate from high school by meeting, or exceeding, the State Board of Education (SBE) graduation requirements of 22 courses. In addition, the minimum 22 credits required must include any and all specific courses defined in the SBE policy.

- Seniors that were passing their spring semester course on March 13, 2020 will receive a Pass for the course. This will be recorded as an official mark of 'PC19'.
- Seniors that are enrolled in a yearlong course will receive the grade from first semester and then a Pass (PC19) for the second semester. This Pass (PC19) assumes the student was passing on March 13, 2020.
- Fall Courses will count into each senior's overall GPA and spring courses will not.
- Seniors that were not passing any course required for graduation on March 13, 2020 will be eligible to continue working to improve that grade and earn a passing mark/credit. The student's teacher, counselor, or an administrator will contact students and parents directly to determine a plan for those individuals.
- Seniors who were not passing a course not required for graduation will have the option to continue working to improve their grade and receive a mark/credit of 'PC19'. If a student

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does not improve their grade to a passing standard by the end of the school year, they will receive a Withdraw from the course. This will be labeled as a 'WC19' on their transcript.

All seniors that have satisfactorily completed the required 22 courses as defined by SBE policy by the end of the school year will graduate from high school on the originally scheduled graduation date. We do not have any information at this time about graduation ceremonies. Decisions about events such as graduation ceremonies, graduation practice, and senior activities will be made once more information is available.

Advanced Placement (AP) Courses

If your student is enrolled in an Advanced Placement (AP) class for the spring semester and they were passing on March 13, 2020, they will receive a Pass (PC19) for the final course grade. Students are strongly encouraged to participate in the AP exam. Teachers for these AP courses will still be providing instruction and test preparation materials until AP testing begins. Seniors that are enrolled in a yearlong AP course will receive the grade from first semester and then a Pass (PC19) for the second semester. This Pass (PC19) assumes the student was passing on March 13, 2020.

Career and College Promise (CCP)

If your child is enrolled and completed, or will complete, a Career and College Promise (CCP) class for the spring semester, they will receive a Pass (PC19) on their high school transcript for all courses with a passing grade. The college transcript will include the actual course grade. If a student plans to withdraw from a CCP class, they should contact their high school counselor or an administrator.

Career and Technical Education (CTE)

If your student is enrolled in a Career and Technical Education (CTE) class for the spring semester and they are passing on March 13, 2020, they will receive a Pass (PC19). If the student's course includes the opportunity for students to earn a credential, please know that we are currently working on a plan for this to be completed at a later date. Once we receive additional guidance from the state of North Carolina, specific plans for credential assessments will be made available.

Summary

Seniors are highly encouraged to continue working through each of their courses in order to maximize their personal learning experience. Teachers will continue to support learning and provide ongoing feedback to students in the class of 2020 and prepare them for postsecondary opportunities. All students should be supported and not penalized due to our current remote learning environment. If we are not able to return to school on May 15, the state will provide further guidance on grading and graduation requirements.

Union County Public Schools is fortunate and thankful to have been a partner in your student's education. These seniors are extremely important to us, and we are thankful you have entrusted us with their education. We will continue to update you with information as it becomes available. Please continue to refer to both our UCPS website and your student's school website for the most up to date information regarding events related to our school system.

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Thank you for your continued support of your student and our school community. If you have any questions regarding this letter or other school related information, please contact your school's principal.

Sincerely,



Andrew G. Houlihan, Ed.D.
Superintendent