



**Continuity of  
Education  
Update:  
*Grading  
Guidance***

**April 14, 2020**



# Philosophy Statements

In the Hempfield School District:

- The transition from our traditional instructional format has created challenges for the entire Hempfield education community.
- While the challenges we all face are real, educational opportunities are present through remote or virtual learning.
- We recognize that we are all beginners in this virtual learning environment.
- All students need to be afforded the opportunity to participate in meaningful learning opportunities, receive meaningful feedback, and be given the opportunity to receive grades for their work.
- Students will not be penalized academically by the current Covid-19 pandemic.



# Learning Environments

- Classroom & home learning environments - similar, yet different
- Awareness of variables that impact a home learning environment:
  - Age of learner
  - Needs within the home
  - Support at home
  - Language needs
  - Ability to complete activities independently
  - Access to internet
  - Readiness to learn online
  - Individual learning needs
    - academic
    - social
    - emotional



# K-12 Grading Goal Statements

- Provide students the opportunity to grow academically through new, meaningful learning opportunities connected to grade level standards
- Ensure that adverse learning environments such as access to the internet, language needs, age of learner, etc. do not negatively impact learners as they transition to Planned Instruction
- Provide students with meaningful feedback regarding their learning while acknowledging and crediting their effort and meaningful participation in a new learning environment



# Grading and Assessment

In addition to our Hempfield grading goal statements, guidance received from PDE:

“Calculating and assigning grades for coursework is the responsibility of each LEA. However, the Department encourages LEAs to assign grades based on the information available.”

“It is the responsibility of each LEA to ensure no student is unjustly restricted from completing their high school graduation requirements...”



# Planned Instruction

**Planned Instruction** (Subject to change based on future PDE guidance):  
Formal teaching and learning similar to that which occurs in a classroom setting.

- Instruction of new content & skills aligned to grade level standards
- Formative assessment of new learning
- Students must attend regularly & complete course requirements

## **Beginning April 14, 2020 (Secondary, 7-12):**

- During this week, teachers will focus on the transition to Planned Instruction and assignments will not be graded.
- Grading will begin the week of April 20, 2020.

## **Beginning April 20, 2020 (Elementary, K-6):**

- Elementary teachers will transition from Enrichment & Review to Planned Instruction.
- Grading will begin the week of April 27, 2020.



# Planned Instruction Times

## Teachers will...

- Plan for both on/offline learning opportunities that are based on new learning and on grade level standards.
- Provide feedback on student work in a timely manner.
- Adhere to the district's planned instruction time estimates in an effort to remain conscious of minimizing amount of screen time.
- Provide a time estimate for the learning opportunities for students and actively monitor/alter based on solicited feedback.
- Be available throughout the day to provide guidance & instructional support.
- Strive to make sure students can complete the learning opportunities independently.



# Planned Instruction Times

## Parents/Guardians...

- Continue to encourage your child to connect with his/her teachers during the teacher's dedicated virtual connection times and/or during times the class may meet virtually for additional support.
- Continue to communicate with your child's teacher during this time. If something is taking too long to complete, please let the teacher know.
- Please be patient as we continue to refine the timing of assignments, projects, and other meaningful learning opportunities.
- Use our Tech Hotline for technical support and assistance
  - 717-618-5549 OR email [internet\\_support@hempfieldsd.org](mailto:internet_support@hempfieldsd.org)





# Planned Instruction Times

- Asynchronous work: students work at their own pace within the week to complete assigned work
  - New work will be posted weekly with due dates communicated
  - Gives all learners and families the opportunity to determine the best approach to accomplish the work
- Principals and department supervisors will continue to partner with teachers to monitor and evaluate appropriateness of learning opportunities and the time required to complete learning experiences
- Grades will be maintained in PowerSchool



# Time Estimates for Planned Instruction

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Core Classes (online)</b>	<b>Core Classes (offline)</b>	<b>Specials/Exploratories</b>
<b>K</b>	10 minutes each	10-15 minutes each	10 minutes
<b>1-3</b>	10 minutes each	10-15 minutes each	10 minutes
<b>4-6</b>	15 minutes each	15-20 minutes each	10 minutes
<b>7-8</b>	20 minutes each	15-20 minutes each (could be Team focused opportunities)	20 minutes
<b>9-12</b>	20 minutes each	30 minutes each	N/A

\*Will be monitored and updated as needed.\*



# Elementary Grading Guidance (K-6)

## Grade K

- K students will continue to receive performance indicators for each skill area (S,E,ND)
- Trimester 1 and Trimester 2 grades will remain on the report card

## Grades 1-3: Students will not receive number value (1,2,3,4) grades for Trimester 3

- Students will continue to receive performance indicators for each subject/skill area (+/-)
- Students will be assessed based on progress toward meeting grade level standards and meaningful participation
- Trimester 1 and Trimester 2 grades will remain on the report card

## Grades 4-6: Students will not receive letter grades for Trimester 3 or overall final grades

- Students will be assessed based on progress toward meeting grade level standards and meaningful participation
- Teachers will offer timely feedback for work submitted
- Students will continue to receive performance indicators for each subject/skill area (+/-)
- Trimester 1 and Trimester 2 grades will remain on the report card



# Elementary Grading Guidance (K-6)

- **Meaningful Participation:**
  - Students are regularly completing assigned tasks/work/projects.
  - Students are also connecting regularly with teachers.
- We ask that teachers monitor participation based on meaningful work. If this is not occurring, teachers will contact the parent/guardian of the student. If the student is still not engaging in meaningful participation after this contact, the student's school counselor and building administration will be notified so school personnel can reach out and offer appropriate support.



# Secondary Grading Guidance (7-12)

**Quarter 3:** Students were given the opportunity to make up any missed assignments during the district's Enrichment and Review period.

- Quarter 3 ended on April 9
- Grades entered for Quarter 3 will be the base grade for secondary students' Quarter 4 grades
- Grades finalized on April 15
- Report cards posted to PowerSchool on April 17



# Secondary Grading Guidance (7-12)

**Quarter 4:** Students begin the Quarter 4 on April 14 and grading will begin the week of April 20. This will be an opportunity for students to improve their academic standing.

- Quarter 3 grades will serve as the base grade for Quarter 4.
- During Planned Instruction, students will be exposed to new learning, based on appropriate grade level/course standards, and demonstrate their understanding of this learning through a variety of methods, including formative assessments.
- Teachers will provide timely feedback, as well as assign grades to certain submissions, similar to traditional classroom instruction, based on the meaningful participation of students.
- Teachers will communicate in advance if submissions will be graded.



# Secondary Grading Guidance (7-12)

**Quarter 4** grades will be calculated as follows:

An average of Quarter 3 and all Quarter 4 grades for the course.

- **Example 1:** A HHS student earned 70% in Quarter 3. The student meaningfully participates in Quarter 4 and earns a 90%. The student's final grade would be an 80%.
- **Example 2:** A HHS student earned a 70% in Quarter 3. The student meaningfully participates in Quarter 4 and earned a 60%. The student's final grade would be a 70%.
- All students have the opportunity to improve their academic standing.



# Secondary Grading Guidance (7-12)

- If a student's Quarter 4 grade is lower than his/her Quarter 3 grade and the student demonstrated meaningful participation, his/her Quarter 4 grade will be his/her Quarter 3 grade.
- If a student's Quarter 4 grade is lower than his/her Quarter 3 grade and the student did not demonstrate meaningful participation, his/her Quarter 4 grade will be the grade he/she received for Quarter 4.





# Secondary Grading Guidance (7-12)

- Final grades at high school
  - Final grades for 2nd semester courses at the HS will be an average of the students Quarter 3 and Quarter 4 grades.
  - These are the grades that will appear on students' transcripts.
- Final grades at middle school
  - Final grades will be an average of all four marking periods.
  - Student's academic record begins in high school.
- District common summative exams and finals are suspended for the remainder of the 2019-20 school year.



# Secondary Grading Guidance (7-12)

- **Meaningful Participation:**
  - Students are regularly completing assigned tasks/work/projects.
  - Students are also connecting regularly with teachers.
- We ask that teachers monitor participation based on meaningful work. If this is not occurring, teachers will contact the parent/guardian of the student. If the student is still not engaging in meaningful participation after this contact, the student's school counselor and building administration will be notified so school personnel can reach out and offer appropriate support.



# Grading Timeline

- Grades will continue to be entered into PowerSchool.
- Grades due from teachers: June 9, 2020
- Grading verification: June 10, 2020
- K-12 grades finalized: June 11, 2020
- Report cards uploaded to PowerSchool: June 12, 2020



**Questions?**