



During this time of uncertainty due to COVID-19, this document is intended to help answer some frequently asked questions regarding changes to the 2019-2020 school year.

❖ **How has the school closure impacted the attendance practices for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year?**

- On Tuesday, April 21st, our School Board passed a resolution which aligns with the State Board of Education. This resolution states...
 - Students may not be penalized for non-attendance of online courses.
 - Non-attendance of online courses shall not count as unexcused absences and shall not be recorded. Further, students shall not be counted truant for failure to attend online courses.

❖ **How has the school closure impacted the grading system for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year?**

- On Tuesday, April 21st, our School Board passed a resolution which aligns with the State Board of Education. This resolution states...
 - Students taking courses for high school credit shall receive no grade lower than the grade they earned in the course as of March 20, 2020. Additionally, Students taking post-secondary courses are not required to participate in the associated exam in order to receive GPA weighting for Spring 2020.
 - Students who are enrolled in 4th Quarter courses have an option to utilize a pass/fail grade for credit OR apply the numerical grade earned during remote learning as a final grade.
- Students in grades K-8 will also follow the above guidelines. Students shall receive no grade lower than the grade they earned in the course as of March 20, 2020.
- For final grade purposes for High School students, the 4th nine weeks grade will average with the 3rd nine weeks for a grade. The combined average or the 3rd nine week grade will be posted as the final grade, whichever is higher.
- K-8 students second semester grade will not be lower than their 3rd nine weeks' grade. Students' base line grade for the fourth nine weeks will either be a 93 or if their 3rd nine weeks' grade is higher it will be that grade. Students may improve their fourth nine weeks' grade to a 100 by completing assignments provided by their teachers.

❖ **How can my student turn in assignments in order to raise their grade?**

- High School students will complete work in their Google Classroom. If your student does not have access to Google Classroom, please reach out to the high school administration and/or your child's teachers to determine an alternate method.
- Middle School students may submit completed work through dropping off work at TA Dugger. Bends have been placed outside the school to work drop off.
- Elementary students may submit completed work through dropping off work at the school they are enrolled. Each school has bends placed outside of school for work drop off.



- ❖ **How has the school closure affected Graduation Requirements for the 2020 senior class?**
 - For an Elizabethton High School Diploma, students must successfully complete 24 credits, which includes 4 Math, 4 English, 3 Science, and 2 Social Studies credits. This reduces the required credits to graduate from 28 to 24.
 - For a Tennessee State High School Diploma, students must successfully complete 20 credits, which includes 4 Math, 4 English, 3 Science, and 2 Social Studies credits. This reduces the required credits to graduate from 22 to 20.

- ❖ **Will students be required to take the yearly TCAP and/or EOC?**
 - The TCAPs and EOCs have been suspended for the 2019-2020 school year. Students will not be required to take these exams.

- ❖ **When will the class of 2021 be able to take the ACT?**
 - Current Juniors will be able to participate in the state assessment of ACT in the Fall semester of their senior year.
 - A senior retake test will be scheduled in the Spring semester.

- ❖ **My high school student was enrolled in a State Dual Credit course for the Spring semester. Will they be able to take the articulation exam for college credit?**
 - Articulation exams for State Dual Credit courses have been rescheduled for September 2020. All students who were enrolled in a State Dual Credit course will be able to take the exam for college credit.
 - Students who were enrolled in Dual Enrollment will receive weighted grade points without participating in the articulation exam.

- ❖ **I received a letter in February about possible retention of my student, will my student be retained?**
 - Parents, School Administrator, and student's teachers will make a determination if retention or promotion is in the best interest of the student.

- ❖ **I pay tuition for my student to attend Elizabethton City Schools. Must I pay tuition during COVID-19 school closure?**
 - If your student(s) is enrolled in Elizabethton City Schools tuition must be paid.
 - Students will continue to receive instruction through different outlets (Google Classroom, Paper Packets, Bloomz, etc.) during the closure. Students will continue to receive grades through the remainder of school year (see grading changes question above)
 - If you cannot continue to pay tuition you must unenroll your student from Elizabethton City Schools and enroll them in their zoned school. You will be required to apply for tuition admission for 2020-2021 school year. Your student's acceptance will be determined on space availability.
 - If you are on a monthly payment plan and are having financial difficulties that prevent you from paying the last month or two of the tuition payment you may receive an extension until the month of June to make payment. Please contact your child's principal for this special provision.