

Bethlehem Township Grading Practices for the 4th Marking Period in the 2019-2020 School Year

We have adapted how our students will be evaluated for the 4th Marking Period on their report cards. Assessment is a tool for informing instruction and providing feedback for our students and their parents, and is valuable in our traditional learning environment. We needed to adapt our practices to make grading in a home/online environment effective and meaningful for our students.

This shared experience for our educational community required empathy and understanding and we took these factors into account when assessing student progress. This includes final marks on our report cards.

Our teachers in grade K-8 have been working hard in this home/online environment and assessed student learning throughout the marking period to maintain motivation, focus, and accountability. Our staff and administration developed a fair way to evaluate our student learning on our final report cards.

Grading practices and reporting of student learning during this period of home instruction are outlined below:

Thomas B. Conley School:

All K-5 report cards are modified to give our students 4th marking period comments in lieu of grades. Our K-5 teachers will add meaningful comments regarding the progress and achievements of each student in each subject area.

The statement “Due to Covid-19 in lieu of grades the teacher will provide comments of student achievement for marking period 4.”

Ethel Hoppock Middle School:

In grades 6-8, our teachers continued with our grading practices with numerical grades throughout the marking period and updated the Genesis gradebook with completed assignments. The parent portal is still open to provide information on student progress and completion of assignments and projects. Our teachers will continue for the next week to provide structure for

our students to maintain lessons, review, and worthwhile learning goals in the best way possible in our current situation.

Hoppock teachers worked toward more project and skills-based instruction to better serve our students in the home/online learning environment. Our staff felt current practices (numerical grades for assignments and 4th marking period grades) kept our students motivated and focused on completing their schoolwork in this environment.

We will make one major adaptation to our cumulative grading:

- 1st, 2nd, and 3rd marking period will count for 30% each (90% total) of each student's final grade
- 4th marking period will be worth 10% of the final grade

If a student participated and completed assignments in all subjects areas he/she will not fail. We consistently emailed, called, and videoconferenced to ensure our students and families were supported academically, socially, and emotionally.

All parents and guardians should reach out to staff, teachers, or administration if their children need anything to be successful during our last week of school. We have been dealing with any and all issues on a case-by-case basis and will do whatever it takes to support our students.

Grades will be available for Conley and Hoppock students on the Genesis Parent Portal on Friday, June 12th.