Temporary Grading Policy Information

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The Oceanside Unified School District (OUSD) has begun its next phase of distance learning and is **temporarily moving to a Credit/No-Credit grading system** for all students for the remainder of the 2019-20 school year. Our board of education created this policy for three reasons: (1) Equity for all students, (2) Hold Harmless Guidance, (3) Assurances from the UC/CSU system as well as many other colleges and universities.

We are following assurances by all University of California and California State University schools, as well as many other colleges and universities, that they will accept credit/no credit from Spring 2020 in lieu of letter grades for incoming students. OUSD's move to credit/no credit is temporary and will be discontinued when students and staff physically return to school in the fall, or based on the determination that school sites are safe enough to reopen, whichever is sooner.

While we are moving to a credit/no-credit system, this does not mean the school year is over for students and staff. Distance learning is essential to ensure that students have the skills they need to be successful in the future. Research shows that students who participate in non-graded learning opportunities earn higher grades in the future than those who do not. It is in the best interest of all students to participate in whatever learning forms they can.

Credit/no-credit grades will not be averaged in a student's Grade Point Average (GPA), and credit grades will not negatively impact graduation status. This temporary policy is based on the California Department of Education guidelines and was made in thoughtful discussion and collaboration with educational leaders at the local, county, and state level, and in partnership with our teacher leaders and collective bargaining group.

Teachers, staff, and administrators will continue to provide the tools and the resources that our students and community need right now to continue learning, growing, and moving forward. We have shared this <u>Secondary Grading Guidance</u> and <u>Elementary Grading Guidance</u> with our staff team. Please stay connected with your school and teacher and if you need assistance please reach out to school site administration.

Sincerely and most respectfully,

Julie A. Vitale, Ph.D.

Superintendent of Schools