

**NEWHALL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**RESOLUTION 19/20-33  
GRADING DURING EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSURES**

**WHEREAS**, on March 4, 2020, the Governor of California declared a State of Emergency due to the outbreak and spread of a novel coronavirus (COVID-19); and

**WHEREAS**, on March 19, 2020, the Governor of California issued an executive order directing all individuals living in the State of California to stay home or at their place of residence, with limited exception, until further notice; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 16, 2020, the Newhall School District closed schools to protect students and staff against the spread of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, due to safety concerns and the need for ongoing social distancing, the State Superintendent of Public Instruction stated it appears students will not return to school campuses before the end of the 2019-2020 school year; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to ensure the continuation of public education, to the greatest extent possible, while maintaining the health and safety of the students and staff and

**WHEREAS**, the Board is committed to continued teaching and learning, including assessment and evaluation of work, through alternative means during this prolonged period of school closure; and

**WHEREAS**, it is imperative that the Superintendent has the tools to ensure the health, safety, and well-being of students, staff, and families on and off campuses, and to ensure the educational needs of all students are addressed through alternate locations or virtual learning environments;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that during this time of school closures, and until further notice:

1. Teachers shall continue to provide instruction, assignments, and assessments using distance learning tools and resources.
2. The Superintendent or designee shall collaborate with school administrators and teachers to develop and regularly review attendance during instruction and the assignment of classwork through distance learning.
3. Students shall be graded using the district's standards-based grading system in a supportive process, which will allow for feedback to families without penalty for students. Grading will employ a numerical form where a grade of 1 (shows a limited understanding of concepts and skills), 2 (progressing towards an understanding of grade-level concept and skills with assistance), and 3 (meets grade-level expectations of concepts and skills). The 3+ (exceeds grade-level expectations by applying and utilizing concepts and skills) might be used during distance learning if a 3+ was issued in the second trimester for the same content area.
4. Grades shall be calculated in a manner that reflects student achievement and learning and supports the preservation of the progress students made prior to school closure.-

5. Students shall be assessed on essential standards taught during the third trimester. If the standards are solely taught during the 3<sup>rd</sup> trimester, the teacher may use a mark of an \*asterisk mark with a comment that the standards were taught solely during the 3<sup>rd</sup> trimester and unable to be fully assessed for grading purposes.
6. Students not regularly completing assignments independently, or actively participating in their classwork will be assigned an N/A. A comment will be issued that grades were not given during the third trimester due to limited independent participation in classwork.
7. Students shall be given an opportunity to demonstrate an understanding of applicable standards through assignments, assessments, projects, or other means appropriate to the content.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** the Governing Board of the Newhall School District does hereby adopt this resolution on grading during emergency school closures.

This Resolution was **PASSED, ADOPTED** and **SIGNED** on this 19th day of May 2020 at a special meeting of the Governing Board by the following vote, to wit:

AYES:   5        NOES:   0        ABSTAIN:   0        ABSENT:   0  



Suzan Solomon, Board President



Brian Walters, Board Clerk



Isaiah Talley, Clerk Pro Tem



Donna Rose, Board Member



Ernesto Smith, Board Member



Jeff Pelzel, Superintendent