

Grading Guidance & FAQs

In March, Governor Mike DeWine declared a state of emergency and ordered all schools closed to curtail the spread of coronavirus. Recognizing that schools would not return until the fall, the Ohio Department of Education has enabled school districts to create fair grading policies while buildings are closed. CMSD educators worked collaboratively to provide an equitable grading policy that honors the work completed from August to March.

PreK-8 Grading Guidelines

- Students who were passing a class when schools closed on March 12 will receive passing grades in the class for the year.
- No students were penalized for issues related to their inability to access learning packets or technology/Internet during the school closure.
- Additional opportunities to earn a passing mark will be provided in the summer and fall for any student receiving an Incomplete on the final report card.
- No PreK student will be retained at the end of the year.
- K-8 students (excluding 3rd grade, which has its own requirements), who pass all of their core subjects, will be promoted.

IMPORTANT: Fourth Quarter IEP Progress Reports will be issued at a later date.



Frequently Asked Questions

Q. How were grades determined for the 3rd Marking Period?

A. The 3rd marking period began on January 7 and ended on March 13, just before our schools were closed. Grades in the 3rd marking period are based on the actual work completed by students while schools were still open.

Q. Were the 3rd Marking Period report cards mailed home?

A. No. The final report card includes grades for both 3rd and 4th Marking Periods.

Q. How were grades determined for the 4th Marking Period while schools were closed?

A. If a student had already earned a passing grade ("D" or better) in a subject area for the 3rd marking period, he or she earned a grade of "Pass" for the 4th and final marking period. See the chart below for detailed information.

Q. My child had no technology or Internet and limited access to the learning packets that the District provided for students in April and May. Will that hurt my child's grade?

A. No. We recognize the challenges many of our families face with no technology or Internet access at home. While we continue working to distribute technology and help families gain access to high-speed Internet, no student is being penalized for technology-related issues.

Q. What if my child was failing a subject area before schools closed?

A. Students who earned an "F" in any area will receive a grade of "Incomplete" on the final report card unless they are able to show evidence they completed the packets the District mailed home to families in late April and May. Classroom teachers can review those packets and change the grade to "Pass" if they believe the student's work shows evidence of emerging mastery in a content area. Parents should contact schools directly to determine the best way to share work completed over the closure period.

Q. Why do report cards for PreK and Kindergarten look different?

A. Our PreK in Kindergarten report cards measure mastery of concepts and skills, but the policy is essentially the same. Any student who earned a "1" (progressing toward mastery) or better on their most recent report card will receive a grade of "Pass" for that concept on the final report card. Students who were not showing progress before schools closed will receive an "Incomplete." See the chart on page 3 for additional details.

Q. How does the school closure affect promotion of 3rd graders? Do they need to pass a reading test to move to the next grade?

A. In addition to passing grades on their report card, the State of Ohio requires that 3rd graders show proficiency as readers in order to be promoted to 4th grade. The state did not change that rule for this year, but it did give schools more flexibility in determining which students get promoted. For the 2019-20 school year, your 3rd grader can meet 3rd Grade Reading Guarantee requirements in two ways:

- **Option #1** - Students earned a score of 679 or better on the Ohio State test and ELA sub score of 44 on the Ohio State test, or a score of 190 or better on the NWEA reading test.
- **Option #2** - If students do not earn a qualifying test score, they can still be promoted if their school-based team determines that they passed "Reading," earned passing grades in other classes, performed well on other school assessments, participated in online learning experiences during the closure period or attend the District's summer reading academy. See details on the chart on page 4.

Q. How do you determine if my child will be promoted to the next grade level?

- A.**
- All PreKindergarten students are promoted.
 - K-8 students, with the exception of 3rd grade, are promoted if they are passing with a "D" or higher grade in their core subjects - ELA, Math, Social Studies and Science.



Elementary (Gr. 1-8) Grading Criteria

Student Grade at End of 3rd Marking Period (GR. 1)	Student Grade at End of 3rd Marking Period (GR. 2-8)	Action During Mandatory Closing	Minimum 4th Marking Period Grade
E	A	Engaged in Learning Opportunities	Pass
E	A	Limited or no evidence of completed work (or student could not be reached)	Pass
G	B	Engaged in Learning Opportunities	Pass
G	B	Limited or no evidence of completed work (or student could not be reached)	Pass
S	C	Engaged in Learning Opportunities	Pass
S	C	Limited or no evidence of completed work (or student could not be reached)	Pass
N	D	Engaged in Learning Opportunities	Pass
N	D	Limited or no evidence of completed work (or student could not be reached)	Pass
U or I	F or I	Engaged in Learning Opportunities	Pass
U or I	F or I	Limited or no evidence of completed work (or student could not be reached)	Incomplete

PreK and K Grading Criteria

Student Grade at End of 3rd Marking Period (PreK)	Student Grade at End of 3rd Marking Period (Kindergarten)	Action During Mandatory Closing	Minimum 4th Marking Period Grade
4	4	Engaged in Learning Opportunities	Pass
4	4	Limited or no evidence of completed work (or student could not be reached)	Pass
3	3	Engaged in Learning Opportunities	Pass
3	3	Limited or no evidence of completed work (or student could not be reached)	Pass
2	2	Engaged in Learning Opportunities	Pass
2	2	Limited or no evidence of completed work (or student could not be reached)	Pass
NA	NA	Engaged in Learning Opportunities	Pass
NA	NA	Limited or no evidence of completed work (or student could not be reached)	Pass
1	1	Engaged in Learning Opportunities	Pass
1	1	Limited or no evidence of completed work (or student could not be reached)	Incomplete



TGRG Grade 3 Promotion Guidelines

SY2019-2020

Due to the changes indicated in state law (HB 197) made in the context of the current coronavirus state of emergency, districts and public schools are required to modify the 3rd Grade Reading Guarantee Promotion Guidance for the 2019-20 school year. Use the chart below to determine promotion eligibility for grade 3 students who may qualify to be promoted under either Option 1 or Option 2. School administrators are required to retain documentation that serves as evidence for the identified criteria for each child in grade 3 as part of TGRG/K-3 Literacy.

Option #1

Student meets at least **one of the two** following criteria listed during the 2019-2020 school year (including summer 2020).

OST Score: 679 <i>or</i> ELA Subscore: 44	YES	NO
NWEA Reading: 190	YES	NO

Option #2

Student meets a **minimum of 3** of the criteria listed below during the 2019-2020 school year (including summer 2020).

Using the criteria listed below, please indicate whether or not student is on track for promotion as evidenced by meeting grade 3 standards for each listed below.

Reading Grade is above passing (as of marking period 3 – March 13, 2020)	YES	NO
All Other Content Area Grades: Math, Science, Social Studies (as of marking period 3 – March 13, 2020)	YES	NO
Other Classroom Reading Assessments (eg., aimswebPlus, ANET, running records, skills assessments, curriculum assessments, phonics inventories, etc.) Assessment(s) Used: _____	YES	NO
Attendance / COVID Engagement (March 13 – end of school year)	YES	NO
Participation in Elementary Summer Reading Academy during Summer, 2020	YES	NO

Using the criteria mentioned above, the recommendation is (circle one):

a) Promoted to Grade 4 for SY20-21

b) Retained in Grade 3 for SY20-21