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Fresno Unified Provides Updates Regarding Fourth Quarter Grading

Fresno Unified School District Superintendent Bob Nelson announced updates on grading and graduation for Fresno Unified students, based on guidance from the California Department of Education and in collaboration and alignment with higher education institutions and local partners.

The main points of the new grading guidelines are as follows:

- The quarter 3 grade will be a student’s final semester 2 grade unless a student chooses to improve their grade
- Students will be given multiple opportunities to improve their grades between now and end of our traditional grading period—Seniors May 22, all other students June 1
- No grade will drop below the grade issued for quarter 3
- Teachers will issue letter grades of A, B, C, and F while D grades will be replaced with ‘Pass’ in the final semester 2 grade

“We are thinking of our students and the impact that the current COVID-19 public health emergency and subsequent physical closure of schools has had on them, and we hope that this update will help relieve some stress and anxiety,” said State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond.

Comment from Superintendent Nelson: “No student grade will drop below the grade that was issued at quarter 3, but students will have opportunities to improve upon those grades for the remainder of the school year,” said Superintendent Nelson. “This grading option was outlined in the guidance provided by the California Department of Education on April 1 and we believe this decision gives the widest set of students the opportunity and incentive to connect through distance learning and to improve their grades during this unprecedented time.”

Superintendent Nelson also addressed the needs of seniors: “Additionally, I want to say this to all of our seniors: If you are on track for graduation, you will graduate. If you needed credit recovery in order to continue to make progress towards graduation, you will have that opportunity,” said Nelson. “Seniors, we are still actively working to determine what graduation will look like this year, but know that you will get your gowns, your medals, your diplomas and we will celebrate you.”

We expect to provide media availability next week when district teams return from spring break.

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