Grading System Adjustment
2019-2020 Spring Semester

Kern High School District Board Meeting
May 4, 2020
Overview

• Background
• School Closure Challenges
• Grades vs Pass/No Pass
• Impact on College Admissions
School Closure Timeline

- March 13th: End of the third quarter grading period
- March 18th: School closure until April 14
- School closure extended to May 4
- School closure extended to the end of school year
Closure
Challenges

• Students
• Teachers
• Families
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ALL Students</td>
<td>41,451</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EL</td>
<td>3,023</td>
<td>7.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foster Youth</td>
<td>299</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SED</td>
<td>30,519</td>
<td>73.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWD</td>
<td>4,752</td>
<td>11.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homeless</td>
<td>*150</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
“Hold Students Harmless”

- Governor Gavin Newsom
- Tony Thurmond, State Superintendent of Public Instruction
Recommendation
Pass/No Pass

- Has the support of administrators, teachers’ union leadership, and some teachers.
Advantages and Disadvantages: Grades for all Students

Advantages:

• Allow high-performers who continue to receive high marks to have grades reflected on transcripts
• Allows students to benefit from GPA bump from honors and AP courses
• Recognizes that some students looked to this semester to boost their GPA
• Continues to provide students with progress using A-F grading
• Aligns with the current transcript grade

Disadvantages

• Students who are disproportionately affected by the closure will not have equal opportunity to raise their grade or to just pass.
• If given a choice of a grade or pass/no pass, students who are disproportionately affected by the school closure will have to choose P/NP more often
Advantages & Disadvantages: P/NP for All Students

Advantages

• Accounts for the inconsistency in support systems for students (technology, in-person support, home structures, etc.)
• Allows students to maintain GPA they had in Fall 2019
• Ensures that students who are impacted by COVID-19 are not also doubly penalized
• Communicates consistent stance to colleges/universities on grading in KHSD
• Will not further exaggerate the inequities with the current virtual learning environment & provide the KHSD time to adjust to potential future closures without penalizing students

Disadvantages

• Some students may lose the motivation to excel or engage
• Students who were anticipating a GPA bump for Honors/AP Courses
• Mark will not provide the same detail as an A to F grading system
College and University Responses

NCAA
UC System
CSU System
Community College System
Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities
Azusa Pacific
Cal Baptist
Claremont McKenna
Loyola Marymount
Pawona
Santa Clara
Scripps College
Stanford
University of Southern California
Other Colleges and Universities
Clarkson
Columbia
Harvard
MIT
Princeton
Texas A & M
University of Arizona
University of New Hampshire
Yale
MIT

University of Arizona

University of Texas, Austin

Yale