To ensure equitable grading for all students, and in accordance with the guidance of Governor Gavin Newsom and State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Tony Thurmond, the Kern High School District (KHSD) will adopt a Pass/No Pass grading system for the 2019-2020 spring semester and the 2020 summer session. Specifically, this means no student should receive a grade lower than the grade they had at the time of the COVID-19 school closure on March 18, 2020.

Pass/No Pass grading will help mitigate the social and emotional stressors that KHSD students may experience due to fears created by COVID-19, and any other adverse effects that it may have on them and their families. It will also help to mitigate the shortened preparation time teachers and students have experienced in adapting to the abrupt change to distance learning.

For the spring semester grading period, a student would receive a “Pass” if the student had a grade of A, B, C, or D for the third quarter at the time of the school closure. A student who was failing (F) at the time of the school closure will be given the opportunity to raise their grade during the fourth quarter. The university systems are willing to accept pass/no pass grades in lieu of letter grades for all courses. Grades of pass/no pass will not affect the university systems’ calculation of GPA.

For the duration of the school closure, focus is on the essential learnings of each course. Through distance learning, students are provided opportunities for remediation and improvement if they had a failing grade at the time of the school closure. For those students who had a passing grade when the District transitioned to distance learning, focus continues on essential learnings and enrichment opportunities.

As this situation evolves, KHSD will continue frequent communications with our staff and community. Please visit our webpage: KernHigh.org, for the most up to date information.