

# Lewis Center for Educational Research

Academy for Academic Excellence

Norton Science and Language Academy

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Dear Lewis Center Families,

First and foremost, we hope that you are all staying safe and healthy. During the last few weeks of school closure, the staff at AAE and NSLA have been working diligently to plan all of the details for distance learning.

There have been many questions about grading during school closure. While grading practices remain a local school decision, the California Department of Education and San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools have given us guidance for grading. In alignment with these recommendations, we will implement a **no harm** grading system for all grade levels. The premise of a no harm system is to ensure that students—especially those who may lack access to technology and home support—are not penalized during mandated school closures. Therefore, instead of issuing the standard marks on report cards, teachers will focus on providing constructive feedback on distance learning assignments.

## Grades TK-5

- Trimester 2 Report Cards will be the last standards-based reports issued this school year.
- Trimester 3 Report Cards will show a pass/fail grade based upon participation and engagement in distance learning.
- Teachers will provide ongoing feedback based upon individual student needs and circumstances.
- Weekly office hours will be held to provide additional support for students (participation is optional).

## Grades 6-8

- End-of-the-Year Report Cards will show a pass/fail grade based upon participation and engagement in distance learning.
- Teachers will provide ongoing feedback within Google Classroom on assignments and will track student participation weekly.
- Weekly office hours will be held to provide additional support for students (participation is optional).

## Grades 9-12

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter grades will be used as the baseline for 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester Report Cards. Letter grades and credits will be issued accordingly.
- Students will have the opportunity to improve their grade standing prior to the school closure through their active participation in weekly lessons and completion of assignments.

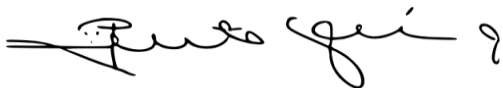
- Teachers will provide ongoing feedback within Google Classroom on assignments and will track student participation weekly.
- Weekly office hours will be held to provide additional support and instruction for students (participation is optional).

The Lewis Center wants to pursue the most fair and appropriate way of grading during this school closure. With the current pandemic, along with the impact of lost or reduced employment, and other emerging challenges, we believe the most fair and appropriate way forward for our families is to remove imposed academic stressors of grades during one of the most challenging times in recent history.

In addition to changes coming with distance learning and grading as referenced above, all state assessments for this year have been cancelled. High School students enrolled in AP classes will receive direct communication from AAE Counseling Office and the College Board regarding AP testing.

We will continue to notify you weekly about any changes.

Kindest Regards,



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Norton Science and Language Academy



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