

SAN MARCOS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

# STUDENT GRADES

## K-12 DISTANCE LEARNING MODEL

April 14th - June 10

### GUIDING PRINCIPLES: EQUITY & DO NO HARM TO STUDENTS

#### SMUSD Grading: Hold Harmless Statement

*Student grades will not be negatively impacted as a result of the school closures and the implementation of our Distance Learning Model. Student grades at the time of the school closures will not be lowered but can be improved upon. Teachers will continue to monitor and support student progress toward mastery of grade level skills and standards. Participating in virtual classes and completing assignments and activities will prepare students with the key skills they need in preparation for next school year, allow them to raise their final semester grade, and may influence placement in next year's courses.*

### ELEMENTARY: END OF YEAR REPORT CARDS

GRADES

K-5

*Students will be monitored for: engagement in meaningful learning activities around reading, writing, listening and speaking and mathematics, participation in distance learning lessons in ELA and Math, performance in ongoing teacher created assignments and activities, and informal assessments.*

*The end-of-year report card will consist of a teacher-developed narrative summary of students' progress on distance learning activities including proficiency levels on ELA/ELD and Mathematics year-long standards. Formal district assessments will not be administered during Semester 2.*

### MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL: SEMESTER 2 GRADES

*Student grades will **NOT** drop below those issued during the second Progress Report.*

GRADES

6-12

*Semester 2 grades will build upon Progress Report 2 grades with **multiple opportunities** for students to improve their grade throughout the remaining weeks of the semester.*

*Teachers will finalize Semester 2 grades for all students enrolled in their classes, based on the grade selection options of A, B, C, Pass or Fail.*

### EQUITY FOR ALL STUDENTS

We believe that providing a combination of traditional grades and Pass/Fail is the most equitable for all students. It affords them a far wider set of opportunities to use the April 14-June 10 time period to engage in distance learning, practice and learn new skills, and improve their grades. It also does not place our students at a disadvantage when considering post-secondary options.

It honors students who have worked hard prior to school closures by maintaining their A grade.

By issuing letter grades of A, B, and C, we ensure that current high school students will have an opportunity to contribute to their GPA for CSU, UC, and other university admission purposes, as was true prior to school closures.

By issuing a 'Pass' grade instead of a 'D' we ensure that San Marcos Unified students are not disadvantaged in the college admissions process and it is comparable to students from other districts who select a Pass/Fail model.