



April 1, 2020

Dear Laveen Parents:

We know you are concerned about the impact school closures will have on your child's grades and placement for next school year. Yesterday, the Arizona State Board of Education (SBE) met and approved measures related to these topics. In addition to giving high schools flexibility in awarding credit for classes and graduation diplomas, the SBE also formally requested a waiver from the U. S. Department of Education to cancel statewide student achievement testing this year for all schools. Information about student grades, report cards, and promotion are summarized below.

Student Grades

Currently, Laveen teachers are providing feedback to students on completed online work assignments and projects. This feedback includes grades shared through Google Classroom. Starting April 6, teachers will formalize this process by also recording some student grades in the gradebook. Some assignments will continue to be graded for participation, but others will be entered for an academic grade. Teachers will be entering at least one academic grade for each content area, each week.

The purpose of recording these grades is to standardize the records, provide teachers with a common format, and provide students and parents with feedback. Parents can access these grades through ParentVUE. Please ask your child's teacher for an activation key if you are not able to access ParentVUE.

Report Card

While we expect our students to participate in these remote learning activities to the greatest extent they reasonably can, students will not be penalized if they are unable to fully participate or are limited by the online format. We will not be posting an academic grade for the 4th Quarter on the report card. The final grades for the year will be calculated based on the first three quarters of the school year. However, a student's online participation and work during Quarter 4 may be used to improve the overall grade. We encourage parents to talk with your child's teacher about any additional learning opportunities students may engage in to help boost their final grade. Report cards will be mailed out by May 21, 2020

Eighth Grade Promotion

Although we will not be able to host any promotion ceremonies, our eighth grade students will receive a promotion certificate with their final report card in the mail.

Additionally, in conversations with Phoenix Union High School District, it is their intention to accept all eighth grade promotions into high school for next year. While we expect the same with all high schools in Arizona, eighth graders attending a high school outside of Phoenix Union, should inquire with that district or high school for information related to their plan.

I believe the State Board of Education's approach reasonably addresses these concerns as it does not penalize students for the statewide school closures and provides our schools with the flexibility they need to do what is best for students. We greatly appreciate your support of our schools and your willingness to partner with us as we work through unprecedented challenges to provide students with continued learning opportunities.

Sincerely,



Dr. Bill Johnson
Superintendent

