



School District of Hilbert

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Invest, Interact, Inspire... Every Child, Every Day!

April 3, 2020

Parents and Students:

I hope this letter finds you all safe and healthy as we head into our first week of Digital Learning in the School District of Hilbert. Our teachers have been working hard on this transition and many of you have already seen how this transition will take place through the connections our teachers have already made with your children. If you have not already done so, please visit our website at www.hilbertk12.org and click on the **COVID-19 School Closure Info** button. This will take you to all of the information that you need as we move through this school closure due to COVID-19. On this page, you will find our Digital Learning Plan with Learning Menus for each grade, each week as we move towards the end of the school year. This is a quick look into what your child(ren) will be expected to do each week. These menus also include our expectations for students and parents during Digital Learning. Please review these together. More information will be contained in your child's Google Classrooms or Google Sites, but this is an opportunity as a parent to see what your children should be working on.

As we have been working through the process of building our Digital Learning Plan, we have had many discussions and put a lot of thought into how we are going to grade our students during this difficult time. We know many of you may be working from home, assisting your children with their education, and trying to keep your family safe with some type of normalcy in your household. In recognizing this, we wanted to be able to create a grading plan for all of our students that was flexible and would not punish our students because of the situation that we have all been put in. Our staff have assembled a solid plan, but we recognize that learning is going to look very different in each of your households, which means that not all of our students will have the same consistency that they may have had if they were in their classrooms here at school. With that, we are asking you as parents to sit down and have a serious discussion with your child(ren) about what this time period out of school needs to look like. It cannot be a time for your child(ren) to do nothing. You, as a parent, are going to have to help be that motivating factor for your child(ren) to continue learning. It needs to be intrinsic in nature, so that we can lessen the amount of information that your child is going to miss over this time out of school. Your child(ren), especially older students, need to be aware that decisions they make in choosing to continue to learn or to do very little over our time out will impact their educational future. If your child is not engaged, you will be hearing from one of their teachers or administrators to try and figure out what is going on and how we can be of help.

Middle School and High School

At the Middle School and High School, we will be using the following system to grade our students during this time out (see examples below).

- Students will not be able to receive a grade for the 4th Quarter that is lower than what their grade was in the 3rd Quarter. All students will have the chance to improve their grade from the 3rd Quarter.
- No student will receive a failing grade for the 4th Quarter.
- This does not pertain to any of our dual credit classes in High School because they will need to meet the expectation of the Institute of Higher Education (University or Technical College). Your classroom teachers will discuss this with you individually.

<u>EXAMPLES:</u>	<u>3rd quarter</u>	<u>4th quarter</u>	<u>Semester</u>
Student A =	A	C (stays an A)	A
Student B =	B	A	B+ (avg. the 2 quarter grades)
Student C =	C	D- (stays a C)	C
Students D =	F	D-	F (avg. the 2 quarter grades)
Student F =	F	B	C (avg. the 2 quarter grades)

As you see, this system of grading for the time period we are out of school will not punish any of our students for the 4th Quarter. This decision allows us all to start clean next year and not have to worry about incompletes, failures, etc. As educators, we are going to have to look at the start of next school year to figure out how we weave in the content that we missed this year, but that is another whole discussion in itself.

Elementary School

Elementary assessment and report cards will have some adjustments for the 4th quarter. Teachers have chosen specific standards that they hope to strengthen by the end of the school year. These skills will be the ones they are gearing their lessons towards each week. They appreciate your help and support in accomplishing these goals. Our teaching staff will not be able to assess students in all of the report card standards. The report card will either come in a different form, or the standards they are not able to assess will be left blank. Please continue to work on reading, writing, and math skills throughout their time at home now and throughout the summer. This support will help them to continue to be successful in the future.

It was important for us to make sure that we designed a grading system that makes sense moving forward, but more importantly is done with compassion for the difficult situation we are all in. If you have any questions, please reach out to me through email sweeret@hilbertk12.org or by phone at 920-853-3558.

Stay home and be safe,



Anthony Sweere
District Administrator