

**ADDENDA TO  
MADISON CITY SCHOOLS ACADEMIC CONTINUITY PLAN  
FOR THE COVID-19 SCHOOL CLOSURE**

**E-LEARNING EXPECTATIONS AND SUPPORTS FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL INSTRUCTION**

**Grading for Middle School (Students in Grades 6-8)**

- No grades should have been entered in iNow from March 16 through March 27. This was optional virtual learning and not required for students.
- Grades for year-long courses, second semester courses, and fourth nine-week courses will be finalized on May 21, 2020.
- Non-Credit Bearing Courses (courses that do not offer credits toward graduation)
  - Year-long Courses: If a student is passing, the final grade for a year-long course will be determined by averaging the first, second, and third nine-week grades (no final exams will be given)
  - Second Semester Courses: If a student is passing, the final grade will be determined by the third nine-week grade.
  - For third nine-weeks courses, if a student is passing, the final grade will be determined, as normal, by the third nine-week average.
  - For fourth-nine week elective courses (that met for the first time on March 9), teachers will give assignments that will address the critical standards for the course. No letter grade will be earned. Students will receive an “S” for completing this e-learning opportunity (if a student would like to repeat these electives in the 2020-2021 school year, students will be allowed to do so).
  - For students who are failing a year-long course, a second-semester course, or a third nine-week course:
    - The teacher will identify the standards students had not mastered and work with the student on mastering those standards.
    - A student may then demonstrate a current level of mastery of these standards and could be promoted to the next grade level / next course.
- Credit Bearing Courses (courses that offer credits toward graduation)
  - Some examples of credit bearing courses in middle school include: Algebra I, Spanish I, French I, Latin I, Career Preparedness
  - Year-long Credit Bearing Courses: If a student is passing, the final grade for a year-long course will be determined by averaging the first, second, and third nine-week grades (no final exams will be given).
  - Second Semester Courses: If a student is passing, the final grade will be determined by the third nine-week grade.
  - For third nine-week courses, if a student is passing, the final grade will be determined, as normal, by the third nine-week average.
  - Any student who is unhappy with a grade from: a year-long or a second semester credit bearing course (ex. Student who currently has an 85 and would like to

have the opportunity to possibly raise the grade to an A) has the ability to improve grade by

- Completing an optional comprehensive project, assigned by the teacher, that will allow students to improve grades by a maximum of 10 points.
- Comprehensive project will be aligned with critical standards, as determined by the teacher.
  - Comprehensive project must be something that students can complete in a virtual environment and must be reasonable in scope and sequence.
  - Comprehensive project may improve grade by a maximum of 10 points (ex. If a student has a 69 as a current grade, the maximum improvement that the student could see would be a 79 as a final grade).
  - Comprehensive project cannot lower a student's current grade.
- Comprehensive project will be assigned by April 15th and will be due no later than May 19th and will factor into the final grade, GPA, and class rankings.
- No student's grade can exceed 100.
- For students who are failing a credit-bearing second-semester course or year-long course:
  - Students will be given an opportunity to gain credit by the end of the school year.
  - The teacher will identify the standards students had not mastered and work with the student on mastering those standards. If the student demonstrates mastery, then the grade in iNow may reflect the new level of mastery.
  - Teachers will replace previous iNow grades from the 3rd nine weeks to accurately reflect the students' new level of understanding.
  - Through this method, the grade can only be raised to a maximum grade of 65.
  - Students who were failing will also be allowed to take advantage of the comprehensive project option - if desired - and may increase their average by an additional 10 points (maximum).

### **GPA - Grade Point Average Determination**

- Graded weights will still apply to all credit-bearing courses (ex. 6.0 GPA weight for AP courses).
- For the Graduating Class of 2020 - GPA will end with the third nine-week grades and Class Rank will be determined with the third nine-week grades
  - Dual enrollment and ACCESS course grades will also be factored in
  - Any increase to second semester course grades as a result of successful completion of the optional comprehensive project for credit bearing courses will be included

- Any increase to second semester course grades as a result of additional support provided for students with failing grades at the end of the third nine-weeks will be included
- For current 9th - 11th grade students - GPA will end with the third nine-week grades and Class Rank will be determined with the third nine-week grades
  - Dual enrollment and ACCESS course grades will also be factored in
  - Any increase to second semester course grades as a result of successful completion of the optional comprehensive project for credit bearing courses will be included
  - Any increase to second semester course grades as a result of additional support provided for students with failing grades at the end of the third nine-weeks will be included
  - Fourth nine-weeks, credit bearing courses (courses that began at the fourth nine-weeks and last for nine weeks only) will also be included
- The approved [General Grading Scale, Weighted Grading Scale, and Dual Enrollment Grading Scale](#) (under policy 7.3 Academic Standards) apply to e-learning.
- MCS is working with the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) on the procedures for grading.

### **ACCESS Virtual Learning**

- ACCESS Virtual Learning classes will continue until 5:00 pm on Friday, May 29.
  - Students (grades 9-12) currently enrolled in year-long or semester ACCESS Virtual Learning credit bearing courses have two options:
    - If students are happy with their current grade, they can withdraw-with-grades at this time and use the grade earned at this point for the final grade.
    - If students are unhappy with their current grade, they can continue in their ACCESS course until completion as usual and use the grade earned when ACCESS courses end at 5:00 pm on Friday, May 29.
  - Students (grades 9-12) currently enrolled in a fourth nine-week ACCESS Virtual Learning credit bearing course have two options:
    - Students have the option to continue in and complete the course using the final grade earned when ACCESS courses end at 5:00 pm on Friday, May 29.
    - Students may choose to withdraw from the ACCESS course and retake the course during the following school year. In this case, students would be withdrawn from the current course with no credit awarded on the transcript / no grade awarded on the transcript.