



TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY SCHOOLS

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Board of Education
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To: Students in grades 9-11 and Parents/Guardians
From: Transylvania County Schools
Re: Guidance for Selecting Option 1 or Option 2
Date: 4/25/2020

We understand this is a trying time for everyone. The Covid-19 Pandemic is unlike anything we've ever experienced. We know this is especially challenging for our students. Please know we are here to offer any support we can. Transylvania County Schools would like to provide you with some guidance surrounding the updated grading recommendation approved by the State Board of Education on 4/23/2020.

Students in grades 9-11 and non-graduating seniors will be awarded final grades based on the following grading system for the 2019-20 school year.

- Students will maintain the grades for fall courses as already stored, yearlong and semester. Fall 2019 final grades will be calculated into a student's GPA.
- Current Spring 2020 Courses:

Student options for final grades are outlined below; however, unless we hear from a parent/guardian by **June 5, 2020**, Transylvania County Schools will manage the State Board of Education's recommendations by default the following way:

- For students who have an average of an A (90-100) or B (80-89) as of March 13:
 - Teachers will input the numerical grade
- For students who have an average of a C (70-79) or D (60-69) as of March 13
 - Teachers will enter a PC19
- For students who have a failing average (below 60) as of March 13 and who elected not to work to improve his/her grade
 - Teachers will enter a WC19 (WC19 will NOT be considered a failing grade, however, it will be a designator showing an incomplete mastery of a subject/course).

In compliance with federal law, Transylvania County Schools administers all education programs, employment activities, and admissions without discrimination against any person on the basis of gender, race, color, religion, national origin, age, or disability.

If you wish for teachers to input a PC19 vs a numerical grade or vice versa, please submit that request in writing (email or handwritten) to the school principal and the teacher. A numeric grade or PC19 will be recorded based on your request.

Student options for final grades:

<p><u>Option 1:</u></p> <p>-The highest numeric grade representing learning as of March 13 or as improved through the semester as remote learning continued will be recorded as the final grade.</p> <p>-When students choose to report a numeric grade as the final grade on the transcript, the numeric grade will be calculated into the cumulative GPA, following the guidelines in SBE policy GRAD-009.</p>	<p><u>Option 2:</u></p> <p>-Students may choose to use a PC19 or WC19 for individual courses where they feel a numeric grade is not in their best interest;</p> <p>PC19 is equivalent to Pass</p> <p>-WC19 should only be used if the student was failing the course prior to March 13 and was unable to improve his/her grade.</p> <p>-When students choose to report a PC19 or WC19 as the final grade on the transcript, there is no GPA impact when using these grades.</p> <p>-When students in a yearlong course choose a PC19 or WC19 for the spring portion of the course, the fall term grade will be counted into the GPA.</p>
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When making the decision as to how each final course grade will appear on his/her transcript, it is strongly recommended that students seek out advising from the teacher/school and in consultation with the parent/guardian to ensure they have a clear understanding as to how the decision may or may not impact the student's GPA.

Please notify the school principal and the teacher by June 5, 2020, if you would like to make a choice that is different than the default process TCS will use.

Although we are not returning to our school buildings this academic year, Transylvania County Schools is committed to continuing to provide learning opportunities for each student, as well as opportunities for students to improve each course average. Please reach out if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Missy Ellenberger

Missy Ellenberger
Curriculum Director