



## Term 3 Grading FAQ for Students and Families

### **Q: What is the plan for distance learning at DCPS in term 3?**

A: DCPS is committed to providing students with an opportunity to engage in instruction during the disruption in teaching and learning resulting from coronavirus (COVID-19) school closures. DCPS' learning at home plan provides students with access to both online and print learning activities / materials that to enrich students' prior academic learning experiences while students are not physically able to attend school.

### **Q: When will term 3 be over?**

A: Term 3 will end on Friday, April 24, which will be a records day for staff and no instruction for students. Term 4 will begin on Monday, April 27 when students physically return to school. The updated calendar can be found [here](#).

### **Q: How should students turn in term 3 distance learning work to their teachers?**

A: Teachers will work with students and families to set expectations for turning in work that may include email, uploading through a specified platform, physical mail, drop-off points, etc. Students will also have until Friday, May 1 to submit all term 3 work in person (upon returning to school on Monday, April 27).

### **Q: How will term 3 distance learning work be graded?**

A: During this learning at home time, when much of our instruction is being offered online, we know that students will have different levels of access to technology and workspaces for learning — so much is out of their control. Therefore, teachers will grade student work without penalizing them for assignments that they were not able to access or complete. Teachers will offer many varied opportunities for students to display mastery and engagement, and any distance learning work completed and turned in can only benefit a students' academic status.

#### Elementary (PreK- 5<sup>th</sup> grade)

Assignments and activities that students engage in during learning at home period will be used to improve student's term 3 grades. Students who do not complete distance learning work will not be penalized and will receive the grade they earned as of March 13.

#### Secondary (6<sup>th</sup>- 12<sup>th</sup> grade)

Distance learning assignments completed by secondary students will generally be counted as extra credit. Teachers will also offer opportunities for students to repair or improve previously graded assignments through new tasks. All work assigned during this period of learning at home can only yield improvement of a student's term 3 mark. If a student is unable to complete any assignments during the period of virtual learning, their term 3 grade will be based on the marks they earned prior to the closure.



**Q: How will this distance learning period impact college admission for students?**

Generally speaking, colleges and universities evaluate students within the context of their high school (and school district). As districts like DCPS make the decision on how they will grade students during COVID-19 closures, colleges are looking to be flexible but will need consistency in grading (i.e. pass/fail, letter grades) and would need to know what learning options were presented to students. Additionally, many colleges and universities have already extended their acceptance deadline. A list of schools can be found [here](#).

**Q: What is the plan for term 4?**

A: Term 4 is scheduled to run from Monday, April 27 through Friday, June 19. Learning is scheduled to take place at school during this time, and all traditional grading practices will apply.

**Q: What will happen if students are unable to physically return to school on Monday, April 27?**

A: DCPS is currently working on contingency planning should the physical school closure extend beyond April 27 and will keep families informed of additional information as it becomes available.