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*(en Español)*

Pirates,

As we close our third week of e-learning, I want to thank you for your continued support and commitment to our school. Most importantly, I hope that you and your families are staying safe and healthy. Our school community never ceases to amaze me in how we can persevere, especially in the most difficult of times.

Students, you are our most important stakeholder. Please continue to check-in to your attendance in Infinite Campus every day. Keep the lines of communication open with your teachers and counselors. Add comments to your discussion boards, participate in Zoom meetings, respond to your emails, and if you need support, reach out! We want to know that you are participating in e-learning, but more importantly, we want to know that you are safe! As always, we are available at PHS to make sure you are connected academically and emotionally.

Parents, we want to thank you for your supportive engagement in the e-learning process. Your partnership and connection with our staff is of the utmost importance in making sure your children continue to engage with their teachers throughout this process. If there are any questions or concerns, please be sure to contact your children's teachers, counselor, administrator or me. There are new and important questions to be answered every day, and as such, we welcome the communication.

The most recent communication from the Superintendent focused on the topic of grading. All of our policies were developed with our students' best interest at the forefront. We are confident that our e-learning grading policies align directly with the Illinois State Board of Education's directives. To reiterate some of this information, I have included some of the main points from the Superintendent's message on April 15.

### **Information Regarding In-Progress Grades as of March 16**

Students and parents can access a summary of a student's grades in each course as of March 16 in Infinite Campus. To access the report, go to a student's record in Infinite Campus and select *More* from the left side menu, then select *D211 Student Reports* from the

“Quick Links” section. Choose the ***As of March 16 In-Progress Report*** in the “Select Report” field.

It is important that students remain engaged in e-learning activities and complete assignments on a daily basis. Teachers continue to post grades in their Infinite Campus gradebooks during e-learning days. These grades provide feedback to students and parents about a student’s progress in the course. E-learning assignments are designated in the gradebook with “EDAY” as part of the assignment title. Grades earned during the period of remote learning continue to be factored into a student’s in-progress grade calculation viewable in Infinite Campus.

On Friday, March 27, the Illinois State Board of Education issued recommendations pertaining to remote learning. A key principle within the recommendations is that no student will experience an adverse impact on his or her grades in association with the changeover to remote learning.

To calculate a student’s end-of-semester grade, we will apply the guidance from the Illinois State Board of Education.

At the end of the semester on May 22, if a student’s in-progress grade is higher than it was on March 16 – which was the last day our schools were open before remote learning began – then the student’s semester letter grade will reflect the higher grade. Alternatively, if a student’s in-progress grade – including the grades earned during remote learning – is lower at the end of the semester than the grade the student earned as of March 16, then the student’s final semester letter grade will either remain the same as it was on March 16 or the grade may be marked as “incomplete.” Students receiving a grade of incomplete will be required to successfully complete core units of instruction over the summer months in order to earn credit for the course.

## **Seniors and Parents**

Thank you for your patience as we continue to monitor communication from the State of Illinois and the Illinois State Board of Education. We are mindful to give you the best possible experience as your senior year comes to a close. We will be reviewing the Senior/Parent Survey results to make the best decision for all if the possibility arises to have the graduation ceremony at an alternative date and/or venue. **We have determined the last day of school for seniors is May 13, 2020.** Please keep that in mind as we move forward with e-learning.

Thank you again for your support throughout this time.

Tony Medina  
Principal

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