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Dear CTECS families and students,

## Grading

This week I'm providing an update regarding our grading policy for the 3rd and 4th marking period. I know this was a concern for parents and students, and we've developed a plan that is fair and equitable given the current situation. Our goal is to create flexibility so students can be successful in our distance learning program. The policy is also aligned with the recommendations from the Connecticut State Department of Education. Here are the highlights:

- Students will receive numerical grades for marking periods 1 and 2.
- For marking period 3, students will initially earn either a Pass or Incomplete. Students who earn an Incomplete will then have until May 8, 2020, to submit missed work to change the Incomplete to a Pass or a Fail. We are aware of the initial challenges many faced when starting distance learning, and we want to provide everyone adequate time and supports to catch up on missed assignments.
- For marking period 4, students will earn either a Pass, Fail or Incomplete.
- Seniors who want numerical grades for the purpose of class rank can request to opt-in to numerical grades for marking periods 3 and 4. Please contact your teachers and counselor if you want to opt-in.

If you have additional questions, please contact your school Principal.

## Support and Resources

If you are looking for support for yourself, a family member, or a friend, know that our schools are here to help. CTECS' Student Support Services has also compiled a list of family-friendly resources from trusted sources that can help you navigate through this difficult time.

### *COVID Information and Mental Health Resources*

- [COVID-19 Manage Anxiety and Stress \(Spanish\)](#)
- [Talking to Children About COVID-19: A Parent Resource \(Spanish\)](#)
- [National Alliance on Mental Illness \(NAMI\)](#)
- [Countering COVID-19 Stigma and Racism: Tips for Parents and Caregivers](#)
- [211: Get Connected. Get Help](#)
- [¡Colorín Colorado!](#)
- [Free Online Mental Health Resources During the Corona Virus Epidemic](#)

*Grief Counseling Resources and Support:*

- [The Cove Center for Grieving Children](#)
- [The Dougy Center: The National Center for Grieving Children and Families](#)
- [National Alliance for Grieving Children](#)
- [Addressing Grief: Brief Facts and Tips](#)
- [When Grief/Loss Hits Close to Home: Tips for Caregivers](#)

*Suicidal Youth:*

- Kids in Crisis: 203-327-KIDS
- Text the Crisis Text Line at 741741
- Call the National Suicide Life Line at 800-273-8255
- Call The Trevor Project (LGBTQ support): 866-488-7386
- For CT's mobile crisis: Dial 2-1-1, select option 1
- Call 911 and ask for a Crisis Intervention Trained (CIT) officer
- Trans Lifeline's Hotline is a peer support service run by trans people, for trans and questioning callers. Dial 877-565-8860

*Public Health Emergency Crisis Intervention:*

The Disaster Distress Helpline (DDH) provides crisis counseling and support for anyone in the U.S. experiencing distress or other behavioral health concerns related to any natural or human-caused disaster, including public health emergencies. Call 1-800-985-5990 or text TalkWithUs to 66746.

*Additional Resources:*

- [Warm Lines in Connecticut](#). Please note that these are not crisis lines. In an emergency, please call 9-1-1. Warm Lines are telephone support services staffed by people who have experience/expertise with mutual support. The days/hours of operation vary.
- [The Hartford Warm Line](#) is a peer run warm line based in Connecticut but open to national callers. There is one Spanish speaking counselor (limited hours) and there are no call limits. There are no chat or text capabilities.
- [National Alliance on Mental Illness Warmline Directory](#)
- [National Alliance on Mental Illness](#)
- [Mental Health and COVID-19 – Information And Resources](#)

Thank you for your continued support.

Jeffrey Wihbey, Superintendent