

April 1, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians of Tupelo High School Students:

The Mississippi State Board of Education (SBE) suspended the following statewide policies to manage the impact of school closures due to the coronavirus public health crisis. These policy suspensions apply only to students in the 2019-20 school year.

**1. No state tests listed below will be administered to Tupelo High School Students during the 2019-2020 school year:**

- LAS Links (English Language Proficiency Assessment)
- MAAP EOC (End of Course) for Algebra I, English II, Biology and U.S. History

**2. Graduation for the Class of 2020**

Current seniors who meet all district and state requirements may graduate this school year. The requirement that students take end of course assessments in Algebra I, English II, Biology and U.S. History has been suspended for seniors because these assessments cannot be administered in spring 2020.

**3. Students Scheduled to Take High School End-of-Course Assessments**

Any student in grades 7 through 12 who is currently enrolled in Algebra I, Biology, English II and/or U. S. History during the 2019-20 school year will not be required to take and/or pass the corresponding end-of-course subject area test(s) or meet one of the options in lieu of passing the test(s) to meet graduation requirements.

**4. Students who Previously Failed to Pass End of Course Tests**

Any student grades 7 through 12 enrolled in school during the 2019 – 2020 school year who has passed the Algebra I, Biology, English II, and/or U.S. History course(s), but has not passed the corresponding end of course subject area test(s) or met one (1) of the options in lieu of passing the test(s), will be allowed to graduate, if all other state and local graduation requirements have been met.

**5. High School Credits (Carnegie Units)**

School districts shall determine a process for awarding a Carnegie Unit credit for courses that are incomplete for school year 2019-20. Local school boards have the authority to suspend or amend their graduation policies for the 2019-20 school year, provided the policies continue to meet state standards.

The Tupelo Public School District administrators and Board of Trustees are currently reviewing our policies in order to be fair, equitable and consistent with the SBE's policies above. Please be patient with us as we do so. We will communicate the policy to you as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please email Mr. Art Dobbs at ([jadobbs@tupeloschools.com](mailto:jadobbs@tupeloschools.com)) or call the Tupelo High School Office.

Respectfully,

Rob Picou, Ph.D.  
Superintendent