



On Thursday, April 23, 2020, the State Board of Education (SBE) approved recommendations by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) regarding the final grades of all students in grades K-11. You can view those recommendations by clicking [here](#).

NCDPI has also created a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document for families which clearly outlines the rationale and goals for their decisions. We highly recommend RSS families review that document by clicking [here](#).

Based on this information, we have created a list of questions and answers to help you understand how these decisions will impact virtual learning through RSS and how final grades will be handled.

[What did the state decide about grades for 9-11th graders?](#)

[What do PC19 and WC19 mean?](#)

[How will my student's final numeric grade be calculated?](#)

[Can my student's final grade go down due to Virtual Learning?](#)

[Can my student fail their classes this semester?](#)

[If my student receives a WC19 for a course, do they have to retake the course?](#)

[How will this impact RSS athletic eligibility for the Fall of 2020?](#)

[How will the NCAA calculate PC19 towards a student's core GPA?](#)

[How will final grades be calculated for Career and College Promise Courses?](#)

[How will final grades be calculated for NCVPS courses?](#)

[How does this impact students in AP courses?](#)

[Will Virtual Learning continue at RSS?](#)

[What should I do if I have further questions?](#)

1) What did the state decide about grades for 9-11th graders?

The state's decision allows parents and students to decide whether to take a numeric grade, a PC19, or a WC19 for each course. This choice can be different for each course.

2) What do PC19 and WC19 mean?

PC19 and WC19 are special codes developed by NCDPI for student transcripts specifically for the COVID19 pandemic.

PC19 stands for “Passed COVID19.” A PC19 means that the credit for that course is earned.

WC19 stands for “Withdrawn COVID19.” A WC19 means that the credit for that course is *not* earned.

PC19 and WC19 are *not* calculated into the student’s GPA.

Not all students will receive a PC19 or a WC19. Students in 9th, 10th, and 11th grade have the choice to take a numeric grade instead of a PC19. WC19 will be given for students who were not passing a class at the end of 3rd quarter or the end of Spring semester.

Information regarding yearlong classes will be provided upon clarification of SBE guidelines.

3) How will my student’s final numeric grade be calculated?

Final grades will be calculated based on third quarter grades and grades during virtual learning. If the student’s 3rd quarter grade is higher than the student’s calculated final grade, the teacher will change the final grade to match the 3rd quarter grade. No student’s final grade will be lower than the 3rd quarter grade, although it may be higher.

4) Can my student’s final grade go down due to Virtual Learning?

No. Students will be held harmless for learning that occurred during the time of Virtual Learning (4th quarter). Again, a student’s final grade will not be lower than the 3rd quarter grade. The work students do during virtual learning can only improve their overall grade.

5) Can my student fail their classes this semester?

Technically, students cannot “fail” their classes. All ‘F’ letter grades will automatically be turned to ‘WC19.’ Students will not earn the credit, so in that manner, it is the same as failing the course.

However, the grade of WC19 is not calculated into a student’s GPA like a failing grade would be. Any student who earned an F for 3rd quarter should take advantage of the remaining time of virtual learning to try and earn a passing grade.

6) If my student receives a WC19 for a course, do they have to retake the course?

That depends on whether or not the course is a graduation requirement or a prerequisite for another desired course. If it is, students will have to retake the course to earn a credit, or complete credit recovery.

7) How will this impact RSS athletic eligibility for the fall of 2020?

Any student who was eligible for athletics in the Spring of 2020 and meets all promotion requirements will be eligible to play in the Fall of 2020.

8) How will the NCAA calculate PC19 towards a student's core GPA?

Please go to the link below for information on NCAA eligibility. Question 13 answers this specific question. http://fs.ncaa.org/Docs/eligibility_center/COVID-19_Public.pdf

9) How will final grades be calculated for Career and College Promise courses?

Career and College Promise course grades will be awarded based on the policy outlined in the course syllabus. RSS students will have the option to choose the numeric grade or PC19 for CCP classes on their RSS transcript.

10) How will final grades be calculated for NCVPS courses?

Since March 13, 2020, NCVPS' grading policy has been to only grade assignments submitted, and excuse any assignments not submitted. We have not been made aware of a change in their grading practices, but we are confident that their priority is also that students are held harmless during this time. RSS students will have the option to choose the numeric grade or PC19 for NCVPS classes on their RSS transcript.

11) How does this impact students in AP courses?

Students taking AP courses are under the same guidelines as all other courses at RSS. Because the AP Exams are in late May, AP teachers may continue to hold virtual classes and give assignments for the purposes of preparing students for the AP exams. We especially encourage students taking AP courses to continue attending class and completing test preparation activities so they are prepared for these important exams.

12) Will Virtual Learning continue at RSS?

Yes. Teachers will continue to deliver instruction and provide assignments to students. Teachers will be available during regularly scheduled virtual office hours. While there are only a few weeks left of virtual learning, teachers have planned out the most essential portions of their curriculum to put students in the best position possible to be prepared for next school year and for continued improvement of students' grades. Assignments will continue to be given and graded. Furthermore, we know that virtual learning provides many of our students with structure and a sense of normalcy. This will benefit their social and emotional wellbeing during this challenging time while also keeping them on track for the next school year.

13) What should I do if I have further questions?

We highly encourage students and parents/guardians to reach out to their school counselors with any questions.