

H.S. Curriculum Committee Meeting Notes for October 29, 2020

Assessments and Grading

As we end Q1, is there any feedback that you can provide regarding hybrid/remote assessments and grading? How are students doing mastering the material? Is the pace of the curriculum the same as in the past?

Some students are doing well mastering the material, others are finding it a challenge. Students/parents are encouraged to reach out to teachers about their individual circumstances.

It is recognized that students are developing new work habits because instruction is more online than in hard copy.

The curriculum is the same as in the past, but the High School is aware that there have been challenges to maintaining the identical pace this year.

As far as tests taking up more in-class time because they are administered over two days to Maroon/Gray cohorts, teachers are starting to look at giving one-day tests.

As far as too many tests/quizzes in one day, there is a form in the Main Office that students can use for teacher permission for test makeup if more than three tests in one day. Students can also work out a schedule with their teachers.

Grading has shifted to a total points system as assessments have been adapted to a hybrid/remote schedule. This deemphasizes big exams.

Special Ed students are being provided with a daily slide that shows upcoming due dates.

As previously announced, the testing room is now available after school (until 3:30) as well as during zero period in the morning (7:00). All students are welcome to take missed tests during either time slot on the days that their cohort (Maroon/Gray) is in school. In addition, students with accommodations (classified with IEPs, declassified and 504 plans) are also welcome to attend on the days that their cohort is remote, but they must leave before school starts in the morning and arrive after school is dismissed in the afternoon.

Teaching, Delivery of Instruction and Learning

Teachers are using various methods to engage students virtually, including Pear Deck, Go Formative and breakout sessions.

The H.S. is continuing to address any technology issues.

As far as extra credit, students are encouraged to reach out for any and all support, such as extra help, and then speak to a teacher about their individual circumstances and the possibility of extra credit or resubmission of work, if necessary.

Class of 2021

In response to the return-to-school survey that was sent to seniors, about 80 percent opted for (continued) hybrid instruction. Of the rest, some have chosen to accept the option of being in-school every day. The only restriction on seniors is with respect to after-school sports—they are asked to attend only when their cohort (Maroon/Gray) is on school premises. The greatest advantage to being in school every day is social/emotional—the opportunity to interact with their classmates.

The H.S. profile sent to colleges along with applications has been updated. Colleges will be advised that the H.S. was fully remote at the end of the 2019/2020 school year and moved to pass/fail grading. In addition, there's a COVID-19 profile statement that high schools are have been asked to submit as part of the Common App that details the effect of the pandemic on the delivery of instruction. This statement is being worked on and will be available in Naviance.