



# Sisters High School

“Home of the Outlaws”

---

4/16/2020

To: The Classes of 2021, 2022 and 2023 and Families

As we navigate through this unprecedented time, our first concern will continue to be that our students and their families are physically and emotionally healthy. We understand that the unknown and the new bring different kind of stresses for each of us. We understand you may have questions about the future and how the current school closure may impact your path to graduation and beyond. Today’s letter is to let you know that we have received guidance from the Oregon Department of Education about grades and graduation requirements for our 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> graders.

### **Graduation Requirements:**

At this time, the only change in graduation requirements is for the class of 2021, our current Juniors. All Essential Skills for the Class of 2021 are suspended, as many schools throughout the state will not have the opportunity to participate in the statewide English language arts and mathematics assessments necessary to meet Essential Skills requirements. There are no changes to the graduation requirements for current students in the Class of 2022, the Class of 2023 and beyond. However, ODE continues to monitor the evolving COVID-19 situation, so that doesn’t mean things might change.

### **Grading and Credit for Students in Grades 9, 10 & 11**

The Oregon Department of Education informed us that all districts in Oregon shall move from letter grades to Pass/Incomplete for students enrolled in high school courses for the remainder of the 2019-20 school year. The philosophy behind this decision was to support continued learning, but we cannot proceed as if nothing has changed and must consider the severe impact the pandemic is having across our community. The Pass/Incomplete marks safeguard our students’ opportunities to continue learning and earning credit without impacting their GPA. Colleges across the country, including Oregon’s colleges and universities, recognize the extraordinary nature of this event. They are making temporary changes to their admissions policies to accept Pass/No Pass marks issued during the winter/spring 2020 term(s).

In this temporary system, students will receive a “Pass” and credit for a course once they demonstrate essential learning for that course during the Spring 2020 Term. What this means is that a student will receive a “Pass” based on progress made up to the point of school closure (March 13) and it shall also include additional learning progress made as part of our districts Distance Learning for All Plan implemented during the extended school closure for the rest of the year.



# Sisters High School

“Home of the Outlaws”

---

If students are not able to demonstrate the learning by the end of the term, they will receive an “Incomplete,” and then we will partner with these students, and their families, to create a Credit-Earning Assurance Plan by September 2020 and completed prior to the beginning of the 2021-2022 school year.

Thanks to each of you for supporting one another, for embracing uncertainty with grace and patience, and for finding strength in one another. We must remind ourselves that we’re part of a greater community, and that our purpose is to emerge from this with the tools to build a better world.

Be Safe and Go Outlaws,

Joe Hosang