



# Stewart County School System



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*Dr. Valerie Roberts, Superintendent*

April 9, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians:

During this difficult time, I hope that you all are doing well. I am writing to let you know that the administration of Stewart County School System is continuing to work to provide the very best for the students. The principals and teachers will continue to work with the students until the last day of school, May 19, 2020. I encourage you all to continue to encourage the students to complete assignments given to them by their teachers and principals.

The state has waived all assessment and promotion policies. They have directed local schools to create grading procedures that would not penalize students because of the school closure. I have asked each principal to work with their staff to create a procedure that would accurately reflect the students' performance. The procedure that will be used this year for grading is outlined below:

## **High School**

Students' promotion, graduation, and retention will be based on course work completed during first, second, and third nine weeks. Grading for the fourth nine weeks will be based on the student's effort in completing online instruction and/or the learning packets. The grading will only be used to improve a student's grade to further acknowledge that they have met school standards and expectations set by the state and would not negatively impact them. If a student does not meet expectations and standards, they will be required to complete summer course work virtually. The high school staff is in discussion about a graduation ceremony.

## **Elementary and Middle School**

Grades for the first, second, and third nine weeks will be averaged together. This will give a realistic measure of the students' performance. Students can earn additional points by completing work for the fourth nine weeks. Teachers and paraprofessionals are providing support by telephone, email, and text for students without internet services.

## **Special Education**

Regarding the promotion/retention decision making process relating to the upcoming school year, local rules regarding promotion/retention apply to students with disabilities. Parents, guardians, or teachers can appeal a retention decision, whereupon the IEP committee will determine placement for the coming school year. The IEP committee will convene to consider all current information and data.

If you have questions, concerns, or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact the superintendent, principals, or directors. Please stay safe.

Sincerely,

Dr. Valerie Roberts

*-Mission-*

*The Mission of the Stewart County School System is to provide a quality education to all students.*