



THOMAS ANDERSON
SUPERINTENDENT

NEW BEDFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
PAUL RODRIGUES ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
455 COUNTY STREET
NEW BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS 02740
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(508) 997-4511

"We are committed to developing a community of learners who are academically proficient, demonstrate strong character and exhibit self-confidence."

KAREN A. TREADUP
DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT

ANDREW O'LEARY
ASSISTANT
SUPERINTENDENT OF
FINANCE & OPERATIONS

HEATHER EMSLEY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF
HUMAN CAPITAL SERVICES

JENNIFER FERLAND
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF
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SANDRA FORD
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF
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SONIA WALMSLEY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATIONAL
ACCESS & PATHWA

April 27, 2020

Dear Families of Middle School Students,

Based on guidance from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, as well as to ensure fairness and equity to all students, New Bedford Public Schools will provide feedback to middle school students during this period of school closure. It is the expectation that students complete their remote learning assignments. Students should engage in meaningful and productive learning for approximately half the length of a regular school day, about 3 to 4 hours per day. This learning will be both educator-directed and student self-directed. All students should follow their teachers' instructions for remote learning opportunities and how to submit completed assignments.

Students will not receive a report card at the end of the third term, but they will receive a final report card at the end of the school year. During the period of school closure, students will receive an indication of "credit" or "no credit" for each course, depending on whether or not they satisfactorily complete remote learning opportunities. This indicator will be reflected on each student's end-of-year report card and will help determine whether or not students are recommended for academic programs during the summer. There will be an appeals process for any parent who wishes to contest an indication of "no credit" for a course.

Each student's final report card will also include letter grades based on two factors: 1) the student's 1st semester letter grades, and 2) the student's cumulative work completed for each course during the time of remote learning. A student's final grade for each course will not be lower than the 1st semester course grades, but those mid-year grades may increase if students meet remote learning expectations. As an example, a student who earns a 75 in the first quarter and an 85 in the second quarter would have a first-semester grade of 80, or a B-. The student's final letter grade for the year will not be lower than the 80, but may be raised to a higher letter grade if remote learning is satisfactorily completed.

Sincerely,

Karen Treadup
Deputy Superintendent
New Bedford Public Schools