

WCPSS Grading Updates:

- Apex High Teachers posted final numeric averages Friday, May 29th.
- Students will have the opportunity to make final grade decisions between June 1 - June 5, 2020 about the option they would like to choose (Whether they would like the numeric average or the PC19). Families will be sent an electronic “Numeric Average Request” form from the school which will allow students to choose to take their final numeric score in Power School no later than June 1st. Students can make the choice to take the numeric average separately for each of their four classes on the same form. If students choose to take a PC-19 for all classes, then the “Numeric Average Request” form will not need to be completed. Students selecting the numeric option should be aware they will not be able to change this option after submitting the “Numeric Average Request” form.

How to calculate your Grade Point Average (GPA):

Please keep in mind, courses with a final course grade of "P" (8th grade high school courses) or "PC-19" (remote learning passing) are not factored into the student GPA. So, when using the formula below, please be sure **not to include** any courses with these non-numeric grades as one of the “number of credits attempted”.

Note: for **current** WCPSS 8th graders, you will be provided this same grade choice for any high school credit courses you are enrolled in for **Quarter 3** such as Math 1 or Spanish 1. You will determine your numerical grade, .5 credit, for the first half of the year (first semester) by averaging Q1, Q2. The grade you may use for grade choice will be for Quarter 3 only and it will count as .5 credit on your high school transcript.

Quality Points:

Final Grade in Class	Academic	Honors	AP/CCP
A	4	4.5	5
B	3	3.5	4
C	2	2.5	3
D	1	1.5	2
F	0	0	0

GPA may be calculated by adding up the earned Quality Points for **numeric grades only** and dividing by the number of courses attempted for **numeric grades only**. For example, a student who has taken four honors courses and earned a grade of “B” in each of those would divide 14 (total quality points) by 4 (number of courses attempted) which would give a weighted GPA of 3.5.

College perspectives on PC-19 versus numerical grades:

At this time, Counselors are unable to provide information on how colleges will view the PC-19 code versus a numerical grade. We strongly encourage students to contact the admissions

office at intended colleges to inquire how that college will address this unprecedented situation. We expect that each college will have their own way of addressing grades earned this school year and may likely re-calculate GPA using grades/courses they feel are pertinent to the admission process and decision.

We can share that when remote learning began, colleges within the UNC system indicated they had a slight preference for viewing grades higher than a C; again, students will need to contact admissions office to determine if there is a preference. Keep in mind, colleges are likely to want to see your true work if you applying to a competitive college, so this may mean using a numeric grade. They may want to see how well you were able to engage in remote learning during this time.

What is the county recommendation:

WCPSS has shared that it would be wise for students earning a grade of C or D to consider choosing the PC-19 option. For those students with an A or B, the numerical option may be best, but students will need to determine how the numerical grade will impact their GPA.

NCAA Eligibility:

For our student athletes, you will want to visit the NCAA Clearinghouse website for specific details. According to WCPSS: *For NCAA-approved core courses completed in Spring/Summer 2020 that have been issued a grade of "Pass," the Eligibility Center will apply the credit earned in these courses toward the core course requirement in the student's certification. If the student's core-course GPA would increase by assigning a value of 2.300, this value will be assigned to the Passed courses. However, if the student's core-course GPA would decrease by including the 2.300 value for Passed courses, the student's core-course GPA will be calculated based only on courses with assigned letter grades from other available terms (credit from these courses will still be applied toward the student's core course requirements).*

Note: This policy will apply to students from all grade levels (e.g., freshmen, sophomores) who successfully complete NCAA-approved Pass/Fail courses in Spring/Summer 2020.

Final notes regarding grade choice:

Counselors are able to share the information above as guidance, but families will need to discuss and make final decisions based on their student's best interest and future post-secondary goals after carefully reviewing the information shared by WCPSS as well as Counselors.