

May 6, 2021

As we approach the end of an extraordinary school year, we want to make you aware of our end-of-the-year grading policy for students at the high school. It has been a challenging year for our students and families to say the least. With this in mind, our end of the year guidelines have been crafted to give our students every possible opportunity to succeed academically. Alden CSD will continue to monitor state and federal guidance in this area, as these guidelines are subject to change.

END OF YEAR GRADING -

In order for a student to earn course credit for the **2020-2021** school year (second semester or 40 week courses), students will receive a final grade for the course/subject based upon one of the three options listed below:

Three Pathways to Earn Course Credit		
Option 1: Cumulative Average	Option 2: Local Final/Final Project	Option 3: Regents Exam English 11, Earth Science, Living Environ, Algebra 1 Only
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cumulative average of 65% or higher for a given course over two or four marking periods. (2020-2021 school year) Final Course grades will be determined by calculating the average for the course: $(MP1+MP2+MP3+MP4)/4$ = Final Average for full year course or $(MP1+MP2)/2$ or $(MP3+MP4)/2$ for semester courses. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some courses require a local final exam or project worth 20% of the final course grade (which needs to be 65% or higher). The final course grade for these courses will be calculated in one of two ways: <u>Semester Course</u> MP 1 or 3 – 40% MP 2 or 4 – 40% Local Final/Project – 20% <u>Full Year Course</u> 4 MPs @ 20% each Local Final/Project – 20% 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If the student has a passing (65% or higher) average for the course, they are exempt from the Regents Examination and will receive course and commencement credit. If the student is not passing (64% or below final average) and they take and earn a 65% or higher on a Regents Exam being administered for a Regents level course, they will earn course credit. Students earning course credit by passing the Regents Exam will receive a grade of "CM" for Coursework Meets Expectations for their final grade.

If a student's cumulative average is 64% or lower on all three options listed above, for course credit, students must follow one of the options below:

Options for Students who Fail	
Option 1: Summer School	Option 2: Repeat the course
The student will attend a Summer School Program.	Repeat the course in the next school year

Regents Exams –

The four exams that will be given include English 11, Living Environment, Algebra 1 and Earth Science (see schedule below).

If the student earns a passing grade (65% or better) for the course, he/she is Exempt from the exam. An “E” will appear on the report card and transcript.

If a student who earns a passing grade for the course would like to take the exam to earn a numerical score, he/she must report for the exam. Once the exam is scored, the student may choose between the score earned on the exam or the “E”.

If the student fails the course (64% or lower), then he/she must sit for the exam. If he/she earns a score of 65% or better on the exam, the student will earn course credit **AND** exam/commencement credit. The exam score will be reported on the report card and transcript. A grade of CM (Coursework Meets Expectations) will be reported for the final course average.

If the student fails the course **and** fails the June Regents exam, it is recommended that the student attend summer school to earn course credit. There are no Regents exams in August. Earning course credit in summer school would result in an Exemption for the exam.

If the student does not attend summer school, he/she will be re-enrolled in the course for the 2021-22 school year and will likely be required to pass both the course and the Regents exam going forward in accordance with NYSED guidance.

If you have additional questions about the exams, please reach out to your Guidance Counselor.

The schedule for the exams is below. Any student taking an exam must report for the exam on the scheduled date and time. Bus transportation will be provided.

100% Remote students have the option of sitting for the Regents exam(s) or not. If a remote student earns a passing grade in the course, then he/she is exempt from the Regents exam(s) like all other students. However, if the student fails the course, he/she can choose to take the exam in order to attempt to earn course credit by scoring a 65% or better on the exam. The student would need to report to school according to the schedule below.

Thursday June 17 th 8:00 AM	Friday June 18 th	Tuesday June 22 nd 8:00 AM	Wednesday June 23 rd 8:00 AM	Thursday June 24 th 8:00 AM
English Language Arts	Juneteenth Holiday Observed	Living Environment	Algebra 1	Earth Science (written test only)

Thank you for your patience and flexibility this year. As always, if you have questions or need help, please call us.

Sincerely,



Kevin W. Ryan
HS Principal