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Dear Callahan Community:

The current school year is unlike any other. For your children, the teaching and learning is filled with new and different challenges. Students are completely dependent on technology and a learning management system to participate in their education. They are separated from their teachers and friends and a new educational reality has been imposed. The goal of this letter is to explain the circumstances being considered as teachers assess and grade students in remote learning.

Teachers will approach this task taking into account the enormity of the struggles students are facing and assess with grace and flexibility. In addition to assessments and assignments, other important criteria in the grading of students will be considered and include attendance, participation, effort, and engagement. It is also important to note that not all grading information is located and maintained within Schoology. Teachers across the district want to emphasize that there are limitations to their current assessment data in its accuracy, quantity, and overall reliability. Our learning community began the school year in a tenuous situation with not everything in place including devices, technology, and resources. We are all too well aware that our current situation is different, and we should respond accordingly. The commitment from teachers is to give the best indication of where your child is academically in this first trimester.

Teachers want to express their gratitude and sincere appreciation to parents and families for your support and understanding. We miss teaching our students in person but remain committed to supporting our students' learning remotely and continuing to develop warm and caring relationships in our classrooms.

Sincerely,

James E. Kennison