

9th Grade FAQ

COVID-19 OVERVIEW

For general information for all Zemmer students, please review the newsletter that was posted last week. You can find it here. <https://tinyurl.com/snfq53q> This document contains more specific information for 9th grade students that we have had questions pertaining to. We thought we'd address them in one document.

Q: Where can I find district communications regarding COVID-19?

A: The latest information and resources about COVID-19 and how it impacts the school district can be found on the district website ([HERE](#)).

Online Coursework

Q: How will students be graded over this new online platform?

A: *We firmly believe that education is about the process and retention of learning and not just the final grade.* If a student was passing a class as of March 11, 2020, the school may award the credit and grade for that course based on coursework through March 11, 2020. **If a student was failing a course as of March 11, 2020, we will help provide an opportunity to the extent feasible to demonstrate learning and receive credit.** If a student is concerned about credit for a course or his/her current grade, he/she should email that teacher directly to explain the concern and formulate a plan for moving forward. Advanced Placement courses still have the possibility of being graded on a five-point scale.

Q: My high school student has an online class with Pearson Connexus? What are the expectations to continue with this class?

A: It is expected that students will finish their Pearson course, information for the exams for online courses will be communicated at a later date. These classes were already being offered in an online platform and students will be expected to continue their online classwork to completion in order to earn full credit for the class. Please contact the online mentor for specific questions regarding individual classes.

AP Testing

Q: What is happening with the May 2020 AP Tests?

A: The College Board also announced its plan for the administration of the May AP Course Assessments and available online AP review sessions for all AP courses on YouTube--[HERE](#). Students will be allowed to cancel their May 2020 AP test(s) without incurring the cancellation fee due to the emerging health crisis and its impact on schools. Students can signify their cancellation by cancelling their test via Total Registration [HERE](#).

Additionally, to help students keep their college readiness skills sharp, College Board and Khan Academy will continue to provide free resources online, including full-length practice tests and personalized learning tools. These resources are linked [HERE](#). The College Board has also provided updates on [AP Central regarding the impact of COVID 19- HERE](#).

Student Support Resources

Q: What are some resources for students experiencing stress and anxiety in this difficult time?

A: During this unique time, it is important to create a space for children to talk about their questions, fears, concerns, and ideas. Below is a list of contact information for school personnel who can act as resources for parents to help talk with their children about the COVID-19 outbreak and maintaining their mental health during this stressful time.

Counseling Dept: (810) 667-2413

- Mrs. Spisz (Students A-K) rspisz@lapeerschools.org (extension 3410)
- Mrs. VanOoteghem (Students L-Z) kvanooteghem@lapeerschools.org (extension 3409)

Additional Mental Health Resources

- Michigan Department of Education Guide to Supporting the Social and Emotion Needs of Students
- Managing Stress and Anxiety from the CDC
- Talking to Children About COVID-19 - National Association of School Psychologists
- Talking to Teens and Tweens About CoronaVirus – NYTimes
- Talking to Kids About The Corona Virus – ChildMind
- Just For Kids: A Comic Exploring The New Coronavirus – NPR
- PBS Videos and Resources
- Caring for you and your family's stress
- Parenting in the Age of Coronavirus
- Kids Listen Podcast

PSAT Testing

Q: When will freshmen (Class of 2023) take the PSAT test?

A: Sophomores will be taking the PSAT test in the fall of 2020 per the Governor's executive order.

Q: Will current freshmen (class of 2023) be required to take the PSAT test next year as well?

A: The current plan from the Michigan Department of Education is that the class of 2023 will take two College Board tests in the 2020-2021 school year. They will take the PSAT in the fall, and another PSAT test in the spring as they would have before the COVID-19 health crisis.