

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Thank you for your patience though all of the changes that have occurred since March. We have moved from a two hour vocational week back to A/B weeks where students are now participating and engaging in student work 10-15 hours every other week.

We are in our third week of the Phase III District Learning Plan. The impact this has had on our vocational students is:

- 10-15 hours of bi-weekly instruction/assignments (approximately half of the school week)
- Credit/No-Credit grading with teacher feedback
- A priority on meaningful connections such as virtual meetings, emails, phone calls, etc.
- Moving beyond previously taught concepts to *most critical standards needed to prepare students for next school year*. You may see some online certifications such as OSHA 10 offered to grade 9 students. OSHA 10 is a graduation requirement and usually completed in grade 10; however, given the circumstances, this is an excellent use of distance learning time.
- Focus on real-world applications (scenarios, videos, pictures of work, journals, etc.)

Our vocational teachers are preparing meaningful and vibrant lessons in preparation for next school year, which again will consist of new material.

- All assignments accumulated in Trimester 3 may add up to 10 points on the school year average.
- Also, and this is very important, students accumulate HOURS toward their shop certificates. Many programs, such as Automotive, Plumbing, Electrical, Cosmetology to name a few, are approved by state boards to accumulate hours toward professional licenses. Students CONTINUE TO ACCUMULATE HOURS as long as they are present and participating in activities and assignments. In fact, we've had our Distance Learn Plan approved by several such boards.

Tri-County has been in alignment with the Massachusetts Commissioner of Education's guidelines and recommendations through all three phases of our Distance Learning Plan. The vocational teachers meet as a team every week to collaborate and share questions and concerns. They are an exceptional group of educators who care deeply about their students and I'm proud to lead them.

Please see the information regarding grading, the accumulation of hours and the remaining weekly schedule below. I'm happy to answer any further questions you may have.

Cathie M. Rebelo
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Calculation of PowerSchool Y1 Grades:

This rubric is exactly the same as the Academic Rubric. Please note, the Y1 average for grade 9 students is determined by Trimester 2 only. Trimester 1 is not included in the average as students were participating in Exploratory during that time.

- $(T1 + T2) / 2 = Y1$ (an average of T1 and T2 will comprise the baseline Y1 grade)
- For T3, additional points will be added to the Y1 grade (per rubric below) for T3 work marked as collected in PowerSchool (successful completion). Up to 10 points will be added to the Y1 grade for collected work, per rubric.

T3 Rubric	Y1 Adjusted Grade Scale	
<u>% T3 Work Collected = Points Added to Y1</u>	<u>Numeric</u>	<u>Alpha</u>
0% = 0	97-110	A+
1- 10% = 1	93-96	A
11- 19% = 2	90-92	A-
20- 29% = 3	87-89	B+
30- 39% = 4	83-86	B
40- 49% = 5	80-82	B-
50- 59% = 6	77-79	C+
60- 69% = 7	73-76	C
70- 79% = 8	70-72	C-
80- 89% = 9	65-69	D
90-100% = 10	</= 64	F

Calculation of possible shops hours:

Date Range	Hours per week	Total
March 23 – April 7	2	All work applied to Tri 2
April 8 – April 24	2	Approximately 6 hours
April 27 – June 18 (8 weeks)	10-15 on A/B week schedule	40-60 hours
Seniors: April 27 – May 29	10-15 B weeks	20-30 hours

A/B Week Schedule for the remainder of the school year:

April 27 – A week (9/11): 10-15 hours

May 4 – B week (10/12): 10-15 hours

May 11 – A week (9/11): 10-15 hours

May 18 – B week (10/12): 10-15 hours

May 25 (Memorial Day may 25) – A week (9/11): 10-15 hours

June 1 – B week (10/12): 10-15 hours

June 8 – A week (9/11): 10-15 hours

June 15 – B week (9/11): 10-15 hours