

April 20, 2020

Dear Seniors,

I know that you have been eagerly awaiting news about how this year will end. I can provide you with some answers, but we are still talking with other schools about some things.

I want to reinforce what I said in my email to all students:

We have one-fourth (25%) of the school year left and I want to be clear: school is not over; you will have work to do, and it will be assessed. We are trying to use our scoring and assessments to give you feedback and honor the work that you are doing. We still have lots of questions about how transcripts will eventually look and for this year's seniors, we are still working on how to show that you have met all your proficiencies.

Most importantly, you need to understand that there is no "free pass." We are going to make sure that we do not penalize anyone for having difficulties during this time of remote learning, however, I need everyone to understand that if you were not doing work prior to us being dismissed and you are still not doing work now, you will not automatically pass your classes and be deemed proficient. I need everyone to continue to work as much as they are able and to reach out to TAs, counselors, teachers and administrators if you are having difficulty.

There are a lot of conversations going on right now in the state and across the country about how we are going to put scores on transcripts for our seniors. What I can assure you is that you will not be penalized for work you are doing now, your current work will be able to improve your scores. Most of you were on pace to graduate by completing the work in your classrooms, and our expectation is that your work will continue in a modified way and you will graduate.

[Our current graduation requirements policy](#) gives us the latitude to deem students proficient based on our teachers' professional judgment. Teachers will use their professional judgement to determine if students have demonstrated proficiency on the graduation standards, while considering the current situation. Flexibility will be given to the number of times and/or the number of assessments that a student will need to demonstrate proficiency. Students who were on pace, completing work, and continue to engage during distance learning should be able to demonstrate graduation level proficiency. Students who were not on pace, were not attempting work and are disengaged from distance learning, will be referred to administration and school counselors in order to develop a plan that may include summer or next year schooling.

I know these are uncertain times and we have so many unanswered questions. My advice to you is to do your work the best you can and know that we are all working on your behalf.

I will send more info when I can. We are still working on what graduation will look like and how we can honor the work that you have done here at U-32.

I miss you, stay healthy and stay safe,  
Steven Dellinger-Pate