Date: July 30, 2021

To: Parents/Guardians and Students

From: Rene Wheeler, Director, Juvenile Court and Community Schools
      Dos Puertas School, Los Robles School, Peter B. FitzGerald Community School

RE: Grade Change for School Year 2020-2021 due to COVID-19

On July 1, 2021, Governor Gavin Newsom signed Assembly Bill (AB) 104 (Chapter 41/2021), which includes several provisions to address student learning loss that occurred during the 2020–21 school year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

AB 104 authorizes parents/guardians of students who were enrolled in a high school course during the 2020–21 school year (or students, if 18 years old or older) to request a grade change. Eligible individuals may apply to the student’s school site to change the letter grade on the student transcript to Pass or No Pass. LEA’s are not allowed to limit the number or type of courses eligible for the grade change, and the grade change cannot negatively impact a student’s grade point average.

The bill also requires the California State University (CSU) and requests the University of California (UC) and private colleges to accept Pass or No Pass grades on a student’s transcript for those courses taken during the 2020–21 school year. Additionally, the bill required the CSU, and requested the UC and private colleges, to confirm and notify the California Department of Education (CDE) that they will accept Pass or No Pass grades on a student’s transcript. Some postsecondary educational institutions, including those in other states, may not accept a Pass or No Pass grade instead of a letter grade for admission purposes.

A list of institutions that will accept, for admission purposes, a transcript with a Pass or No Pass grade instead of a letter grade for an applicant pursuant to Education Code Section 49066.5(b) can be found at https://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/gs/ps/ab104surveyresults.asp.

IMPORTANT: Parents/guardians and students have fifteen (15) calendar days to apply for a grade change; and Santa Barbara County Education Office (SBCEO) cannot accept grade change applications after those fifteen (15) days. Therefore, applications are due to the student’s school site no later than August 16, 2021 (application enclosed).

SBCEO has fifteen (15) calendar days from when the grade change request is submitted to make the change on the student’s transcript and notify the student and/or parent/guardian.