



Dr. Brian Otott
Superintendent

November 20, 2020

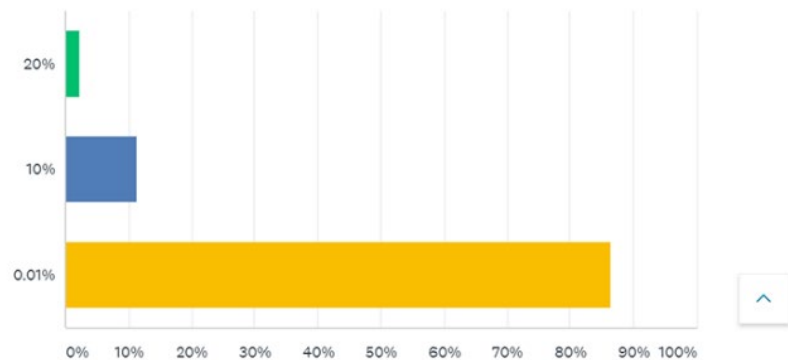
Hello PCSD High School Students, Parents & Guardians,

On Thursday, the state Board of Education voted to give preliminary approval to State Superintendent Richard Woods's recommendation that End of Course Tests (EOC) count a minimum of .01 percent of a student's final grade. This proposal is based on a statewide survey showing overwhelming public support for the .01 percent option due to the impact of COVID-19.

The decision clears the way for school districts to assign their own weight to End of Course Tests (with a .01 percent minimum), and for all Paulding County high schools the recommendation will be that each EOC counts the minimum .01 percent of a student's final grade in that course. The circumstances of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic necessitate that EOCs not be high-stakes tests this school year, and therefore I support the lowest possible weight being applied for Paulding County students.

Due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, for the 2020-2021 school year, what percentage of a student's final grade should the End of Course test count?

Answered: 93,079 Skipped: 0



Georgia Department of Education Statewide Survey Results

As a matter of order, the recommendation will not be ratified until December 21st, allowing 30 days for public comment. In the unlikely event there is a change, school districts will have to go back and adjust final grades according to whatever standard is finalized in 30 days.

[Click here to read the State Department of Education Press Release.](#)

I see Thursday's state BOE decision as very good news for Paulding County students, especially as our students are currently split between two different models of instruction. We will keep you informed of developments in this process, but we wanted to share this news with you as we head into Thanksgiving Break because End of Course tests are scheduled to begin as soon as we return. While we recognize that EOCS will count only 0.01 percent of our students' final grades, the tests will provide data on student mastery of course objectives. EOC tests will be administered as scheduled.

Please contact your school if you have any questions, and as always, thank you for your support of the Paulding County School District.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "B. Otott", with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Dr. Brian Otott
Superintendent