

Message From the Superintendent

Welcome Back Message to Families



August 14, 2020

Dear San Ysidro School District Families,

I extend to you a warm welcome back to the 2020-2021 school year! This year will be a time in our lives that we will always remember because life has been disrupted by the worldwide coronavirus health crisis. While the world feels as though everything is upside down and the normalcy of everyday life has become a privilege, as humankind we maintain the courage to remain strong, to persevere, and to move forward.

The existence of hope continues to live within us. It is this flicker of hope that reminds us that the future holds a brighter path. Therefore, our resolve must remain steadfast to stand united, to take care of one another, and to survive and thrive in the midst of uncertainty.

It is evident that in the midst of this crisis our community's collective human spirit is very much alive and that we are helping each other through this pandemic. This is why our district's theme this year is **TOGETHER or JUNTOS** because we know that together we have the power to help one another, to be kind to one another, to ensure that our community makes it through this unprecedented time, and to emerge from it stronger. Now more than ever, it is critical that our community remains united and engages in this collective, humanitarian effort to help one another. [#SYSDTOGETHER](#) [#SYSDJUNTOS](#)



Our school district has prioritized launching the new school year with a keen focus on 4 pillars amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.

Four Guiding Pillars

The graphic displays four icons on a dark blue background. From left to right: a red square with a white hand icon, a pink square with a white telephone icon, a purple square with a white Wi-Fi symbol, and a light purple square with a white stack of books icon.

SAFETY COMMUNICATION CONNECTIVITY HIGH QUALITY EDUCATION

Safety is our district's top priority for our students, our families, our staff and our community. Our Safety Task Force diligently worked this summer to develop the district's COVID-19 Prevention Safety Plan for Schools. In preparation for the time when county health officials allow our schools to reopen, our district has implemented the state and county health department guidelines for COVID school safety which includes, but is not limited to the San Diego county health department's Big 4 Safety Measures: 1) Temperature & Symptom Screenings; 2) Physical Distancing (6 feet apart); 3) Face Coverings; and 4) Hand Washing & Increased Sanitation. Also, our district has a presentation link below detailing the school safety measures implemented at schools from signage, to hand washing, to air filtering, to temperature screening and more. Finally, our district has training videos and step-by-step flyers with instructions for staff and students on COVID safety measures.

Here are the district website links to detailing our district's safety plan and measures:

1. COVID-19 Prevention Safety Plan for Schools
<https://www.sysdschools.org/cms/lib/CA02206824/Centricity/Domain/741/Revised%20%20COVID-19%20Prevention%20Plan%20For%20District%20Schools.pdf>
2. Big 4 Safety Measures
https://tb2cdn.schoolwebmasters.com/acct_528935/site_528936/Documents/School-Reopening-Guidance-and-the-Big-4.pdf
3. School Safety Presentation by the Maintenance and Operations Department
<https://www.sysdschools.org/cms/lib/CA02206824/Centricity/Domain/741/Virtual%20COVID%20-19%20Prevention%20Plan%20for%20Schools%20Welcome%20Back%20Staff%20Event%202020-2021%208-12-20.pdf>
4. COVID Safety Training Videos & Step-By-Step Directions
<https://www.sysdschools.org/cms/lib/CA02206824/Centricity/Domain/741/COVID%20Safety%20Training%20Videos%20and%20Step-By-Step%20Directions.pdf>

Governor Newsom issued an order on July 17th indicating that schools in California residing within counties on the state's monitoring list would be required to open schools this fall with a distance learning instructional model only. Given that San Diego county is currently one of over 30 counties on the state's monitoring list **our school district will open this fall with a Distance Learning Academy on Monday, August 17th.**

The Governor has determined that schools may reopen for in person instruction after the county they reside within has been removed from the state's monitoring list for 14 consecutive days. Our schools will provide the Distance Learning Academy for all students through the end of September 2020 then we will reassess if state and county health officials have determined it is safe for our schools to reopen and provide a second instructional model: Blended Learning Program (2 days at school; 3 days online). Here are the instructional program phases that our district has established.

Instructional Program Phases

| PHASE I | PHASE II | PHASE III |
|---|--|---|
| <p>DISTANCE LEARNING ACADEMY (All Students)</p> <p>&</p> <p>VIRTUAL TUTORING OPTION (October 2020)</p> <p>&</p> <p>POSSIBLE DAY CAMP LIMITED OPTION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pending state & county health care guidelines. (DATE: TBD) | <p>DISTANCE LEARNING ACADEMY</p> <p>&</p> <p>In-person opportunities for targeted, specialized groups by grade or identified need</p> | <p>2 INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM OPTION CHOICES:</p> <p>DISTANCE LEARNING ACADEMY</p> <p>&</p> <p>LAUNCH OPTIONAL BLENDED LEARNING PROGRAM</p> |
| DATE: Monday, August 17 | DATE: When State & County Health Officials Allow Schools to Reopen | DATE: When State & County Health Officials Allow Schools to Reopen |

On Tuesday, August 11th our education services department provided a **Virtual Distance Learning Parent & Student Orientation** via our district's YouTube channel. This orientation provides important information on the following topics:

| REGISTRATION & LOGISTICS | INSTRUCTION | TECHNOLOGY | ADDITIONAL INFORMATION |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|--|--|
| Online Registration | Instructional Program | Chromebook Set-Up | School Meal Program |
| Transfer Applications | Daily Schedule | Chromebook Log-In | Student and Parent Expectations |
| Calendar of Events | Distance Learning Components | Google Classroom Login | Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) |
| Parent VUE | Attendance | Who to contact for technology support? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> itsupport@sysd.schools.org (619)454-0897 | Who to contact for help? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Contact Directory with email and phone number by school site |
| | Student and Parent Expectations | | |
| | Tips for Success | | |

Here are the district links to the **Distance Learning Parent & Student Orientation presentation and slides**:

- Presentation Slides in English: <https://www.sysdschools.org/site/handlers/filedownload.ashx?moduleinstanceid=1416&dataid=1838&FileName=Distance%20Learning%20%20Virtual%20Parent%20Orientation%20English.pdf>
- Presentation Slides in Spanish: <https://www.sysdschools.org/site/handlers/filedownload.ashx?moduleinstanceid=1416&dataid=1839&FileName=Distance%20Learning%20Orientation%20Meeting%20-%20Spanish.pdf>
- Video Presentation in English: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=12_a4P-hPrC
- Video Presentation in Spanish: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vev6dAUOkYE>

The first day of school for students is on Monday, August 17th. All TK - 8th grade students will **begin school each day promptly at 8:30 a.m.** Note, that the **first week of school has daily minimum days** which follow the Friday minimum day schedule noted in the chart below. Here are the daily schedules for each grade, including preschool:

Daily Schedules

| | Monday-Thursday | Friday & All Minimum Days |
|--|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Preschool AM Class | 9:00 am – 10:30 am | 9:00 am - 9:45 am |
| Preschool PM Class | 1:00 pm-2:30 pm | 1:00 pm – 1:45 pm |
| TK/K | 8:30 am-12:30 pm (lunch) | 8:30 am - 10:15 am |
| Grades 1-3 | 8:30 am-1:30 pm (lunch) | 8:30 am - 10:15 am |
| Grades 4-6 | 8:30 am-1:40 pm (lunch) | 8:30 am - 10:15 am |
| Grades 7-8 | 8:30 am-1:45 pm (lunch) | 8:30 am – 11:00 am |
| Please Note: The first week of school (August 17 th – August 21 st) will be a minimum day schedule. | | |

Here are the steps students will take to login to their Google Classroom Portal and begin class each day with their teachers.

Google Classroom

Logging on to Google Classroom

Get on the Internet using the Google Chrome Browser, 

Click on the Waffle and select the Google Classroom App.



Once in the Google Classroom App, there are 2 ways to JOIN a class:

Student Google Sign-in:
USER ID: studentID@sysdschools.org PASSWORD: sybirthdate (mm/dd/yyyy) INCLUDE /

Example: Student: Johnny Appleseed, ID: 123456, DOB 01/01/2020
USER ID: 123456@sysdschools.org PASSWORD: sy01/01/2020

Joining a Google Classroom

1. Click on the + sign in the right-hand corner, then select Join Class, and a window will pop-up asking you for a class code:



Enter the class code that was provided by your teacher or the school, then click JOIN and you will be added to the class.

OR

2. If your teacher has already sent you an invitation to join a class you will see a class in your Google Classroom App.



You need to click JOIN and you will be added to the class.

The district is working hard to reconcile actual student registration with staffing needs at each school. Each day schools are receiving additional online registration submissions, thus our staffing allocations have been fluid at schools. While our schools are able to assign most students to a class and teacher there are a select few classes that are still being finalized. By Friday, August 14th most parents will be notified which class/es and teacher/s their child will have. Parents can also log into Parent VUE using the instructions below to identify their child's class assignment/schedule, student identification, and more. Please note that when the county health department allows our schools to reopen then we anticipate the need to reconfigure classes based on family preferences for their students to continue to learn either via the Distance Learning Academy or the Blended Learning Program (2 days @ school; 3 days online). Thank you for your patience regarding this matter.

Parent Vue

Web portal where families can view their student's school information

- School site information and contacts
- Class Schedule
- Course History
- Student ID
- Student's Google account is StudentID@sysdschools.org
- parentvue.sysdschools.org
- Login credentials are the same as online registration
- itsupport@sysdschools.org or (619) 454-0897

ParentVUE Login Directions:

1. Go to website: parentvue.sysdschools.org
2. Click on "I am a parent"
3. Enter your parent username and password
 - a. Username & Password Information, is the same as online registration credentials
 - b. For support with ParentVue login information, contact IT Support email: itsupport@sysdschools.org
Phone: 619-454-0897

Senate Bill 98 details the **Continuity of Learning and Attendance Plan** which will replace the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) this school year due to the global health crisis. The California Department of Education requires that all public school districts complete this plan by September 30th. The plan has six primary components:

- Stakeholder engagement
- Addressing gaps in learning
- Access to devices and connectivity
- Mental health and social emotional well-being for students and staff
- School Meals

Also, Senate Bill 98 requires schools throughout California to take **daily student attendance**. Thus, it will be important for students to attend school every day online as

teachers will begin each class by taking attendance. Please help and encourage your child login to their class at least 5 minutes prior to each class starting or every morning by 8:25 a.m. as class will begin at 8:30 a.m. for TK - 8th. This state legislation requires schools establish a system of support and reengagement plan for all students who have been absent 3 consecutive days or up to 60% of the school week. Parents, please let your child know about these attendance expectations and support them with their school attendance.

Please review with your child our district's **Distance Learning Rules and Guidelines** as these will be enforced by all staff at all schools district wide to ensure a safe, respectful and responsible learning environment for all students. Here is a district website link to our Distance Learning Rules and Guidelines:

<https://www.sysdschools.org/site/handlers/filedownload.ashx?moduleinstanceid=1416&dataid=1840&FileName=Distance%20Learning%20Technology%20Rules%20and%20Guidelines.pdf>

On June 25th our Governing Board revised the 2020-2021 student calendar by delaying our school start date to this coming Monday, August 17th due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Here is the district weblink to the **2020-2021 student calendar**:
<https://www.sysdschools.org/domain/55>

Our district and school offices are here to support your family. The best way to reach us is by email or phone call. Here is a quick reference link to each **school's office staff contacts**:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/e/2PACX-1vTF2MSFXFZozUIbgxelCRGdp08jY5CiMQ4jbghjneNfCMMArufxPI47l658DynvO0QxpegX5qrlMbNx/pub>

Parents, here are the **tips for school success** that you can help your child with to ensure they have a successful first week of school.



Tips for Success



- Identify & Set-Up a quiet space for learning.
- Use earbuds or headphones to help focus attention.
- Get up early, eat breakfast, and get dressed for school.
- Have your schedule ready so that you know when to log-in
- Allow 15 minutes to prepare yourself to log-in.
- Remember to log-in on time, Attendance will be taken.

Our district is committed to helping our students and their families successfully navigate this school year. We have a keen focus on our four pillars of **SAFETY, COMMUNICATION, CONNECTIVITY and HIGH QUALITY EDUCATION**. With our theme of year as **TOGETHER or JUNTOS** we know that indeed together we will help our children, their families, our staff and our community persevere and emerge stronger from this challenging time. **#SYSDTOGETHER #SYSDJUNTOS**

Sincerely,

Gina A. Potter, Ed.D.
Superintendent