

District Highlights

Superintendent - Gina Potter, Ed.D. Week of July 31, 2020

SUPERINTENDENT

START OF THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR INFORMATION

This year continues to be incredibly challenging for our community and families in San Ysidro School District. With the coronavirus health crisis escalating within the south county region safety must be our most important priority. While our district had hoped to reopen schools this fall with a blended learning model the current regional COVID data indicates that it is simply not safe to do so at this time. We ask for your continued patience and understanding as our district makes decisions based on safety for all first.

Now more than ever, it is critical that our community remains united and engages in collective, humanitarian efforts to help one another. Our district is committed to this humanitarian effort and will continue to provide our families with food, securing health and social services, equitable access to technology devices and internet, education for our children, and more. #SYSDUnited #SYSDUnidos

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

- Safety
- Communication
- Connectivity: Bridging the Digital Divide
- High Quality Educational Program

These pillars are essential for our district as we prioritize safety for students, staff, families and the community while the world navigates this very difficult landscape. We are working to communicate often with our families through District Highlights, phone messages, social media and on our district and school websites. Our district is also focused on ensuring that all of our students have access to a device and the internet in order to successfully engage in the Distance Learning Academy is a priority for our district. Thankfully, our administrative team submitted and was awarded a grant from the California Public Utilities Commission to purchase additional Chromebooks and hot spots for our students this school year. Finally, we are committed to providing to our students with a high quality educational program.

The district has established 3 phases that we will follow for reopening our schools for the 2020-2021 school year. These phases are described in the chart below and are predicated on state and county health officials determining when our schools are safe to reopen for in person instruction. Phase I includes all students beginning the school year on Monday, August 17th within our Distance Learning Academy which provides daily online, interactive instruction by our teachers for their students. Monday through Thursday all transitional kindergarten through 8th grade students will have daily live interaction with their teachers and peers with a minimum day of live interaction with a certificated staff member on Fridays. The Distance Learning Academy will be provided to all students at least until the end of September.

Also, in October, the district is partnering with the YMCA to launch a free weekly **Virtual Tutoring** program option for students by parent or teacher referral. If state and county health officials allow our schools to open for a limited day camp or childcare program then our district will work to establish one of these programs to support essential workers and families.

PHASE I	PHASE II	PHASE III
DISTANCE LEARNING ACADEMY (All Students)	DISTANCE LEARNING ACADEMY	2 INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM OPTION CHOICES:
&	& In-person opportunities for	DISTANCE LEARNING ACADEMY
VIRTUAL TUTORING OPTION (October 2020)	targeted, specialized groups by grade or identified need	& LAUNCH OPTIONAL
&		BLENDED LEARNING PROGRAM
POSSIBLE DAY CAMP LIMITED OPTION • Pending state & county health care guidelines. (DATE: TBD)		
DATE: Monday, August 17 - at least until end of September	DATE: When State & County Health Officials Allow Schools to Reopen	DATE: When State & County Health Officials Allow Schools to Reopen

The daily school start time for transitional kindergarten through 8th grade students will be 8:30 a.m. The daily start time for morning preschool will be 9:00 a.m. and the afternoon preschool session will begin at 1:00 p.m.

Students will begin their school day every morning by logging into their Google Classroom portal. Student attendance will be taken by all teachers daily and will be the first activity that happens every morning. Each instructional week for students will include an advisory component, social emotional learning, rigorous academic instruction utilizing state adopted curriculum in English Language Arts and mathematics, English

language development for our English language learners, whole group instruction, small group instruction, independent practice and more.

Districtwide our teachers will utilize the following state and district adopted curriculum:

Grade Level	English Language Arts	Mathematics
Kindergarten - 6th	Benchmark Advance	McGraw Hill My Math
7th - 8th	Amplify	College Board Springboard

^{*} Note: Online textbooks and resources are available for the above adopted curriculum. Teachers also have supplemental instructional materials that may be incorporated into their lessons.

Chromebook Distribution Events begin the week of August 10th. All preschool through 8th grade students who are registered to attend any of our schools can attend any of the following Chromebook distribution events below:

Monday, August 10th	@Vista Del Mar Middle	9-11am 2-5pm
Tuesday, August 11th	@Vista Del Mar Middle	9-11am 2-5pm
Thursday, August 13th	@Willow Elementary	9-11am 2-5pm
Friday, August 14th	@Willow Elementary	9-11am 2-5pm

Schools will also organize books and supply distribution dates within the first two weeks of school. The dates and times of each school's distribution dates will be determined by individual schools.

There will be a very informative **Parent and Student Virtual Orientation for the Distance Learning Academy** on Tuesday, August 11th at both 9:00 a.m. and again at 5:00 p.m. Here is the You Tube link to view this orientation: https://meet.google.com/linkredirect?authuser=0&dest=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2Fchannel%2FUCGyF01068pwbhe-B5xnyl-A%2Fvideos

The district will record this orientation and post it on our website for families to view at any time.

Below please find the powerpoint presentation provided by our Executive Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Manuela Colom regarding the start of our new school year below with regards to the Distance Learning Academy and the COVID-19 Prevention Plan for Schools. *Please click on the link to view the powerpoint presentation:*https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/10r-aOz06bkqLwMgQTm6Uaojud3t-UPo4CEL4ubsP99w/edit?usp=sharing

IMPORTANT DATES TO LAUNCH NEW SCHOOL YEAR

DATE	EVENT	WHO
July 17th	Human Resources Distribution of PPE (personal protective equipment) to Staff Events Began	Farkas & Gonzales
Week of July 27th	Staff Daily Temperature Checks Began	All Schools & Departments
	Staff Continue Daily Online Self Health Screenings	
Wed, July 29	All Management Return from Summer (including Principals & APs)	Administration
Thurs, Aug 6 - Fri, Aug 7 (9am - 4:30pm)	Virtual Leadership Academy via Zoom	Management Team
Beginning Week of Aug 10th	Chromebook Distribution Events @ VDM & Willow for All Schools & PK-8th	Principals Coordinate w/ Ed Services (Colom & Gonzalez) & Technology Director
Mon, Aug 10 & Tues, Aug 11	Optional Professional Development for Certificated Re: Distance Learning Academy	Education Services & School Technology Leads
Wed, Aug 12th (8-11:15am & Noon-3pm)	Virtual Districtwide Welcome Back Staff Event & Professional Development via You Tube Link	Presenters: Extended Cabinet & Board Members
		Participants: All Staff (certain classified optional)
Thurs, Aug 13th	Certificated Staff ½ Day AM PD + ½ Day Teacher Prep	Certificated Staff
	Principals & Directors: Welcome Back Staff Meetings - AM Only (Elementary: 8-11:15am; Middle School: 7:30-10:45am)	
Fri, Aug 14th	Full Day Teacher Prep	Certificated Staff
Tues, Aug 11 @ 9am & 5pm	Virtual Parent & Student Distance Learning Academy Orientations via You Tube Link: https://meet.google.com/linkredirect?authuser=0 &dest=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2 Fchannel%2FUCGyF01068pwbhe-B5xnyl-A%2F videos	Colom & Gonzalez & Mr. Lewis
Mon, Aug 17th	First Day of School for Students School starts Mon-Fri @ 8:30am for All TK-8th Grade Students via Google Meet w/ Teacher/s	All
Aug 17 - End of Sept 2020	Distance Learning Academy for ALL Students	All Schools
Oct 2020: Check State & County Health Orders to Determine if Schools are Able to Reopen	Distance Learning Academy for ALL Students	All Scribols

DRAFT COVID-19 PREVENTION PLAN FOR SCHOOLS

Our gratitude is extended to the district's Reopening of Schools Task Force as they worked through summer to ensure that our district has a detailed safety plan for our schools. The Task Force utilized the guidance from the California Department of Public Health, the California Department of Education and the county health department as the foundation for safely reopening our schools. Recently, the county health department and the San Diego County Office of Education updated the COVID safety plan template for schools. Our district's Executive Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Manuela Colom provided the following draft of our district's COVID-19 Prevention Plan for District/Schools at the board meeting on July 28th.

Please click on the link to view the COVID-19 Prevention Plan for District/Schools: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1435nl_XfxaJKaO2JGVA38CgJvM_gMWQHdI1NM8qZp40/edit?usp=sharing

As the state and county health guidance continues to change our district and schools will update our COVID-19 Prevention Plan for Schools, as needed. These plans will be posted on the district and school websites.

COVID 19-UPDATES, SCHOOLS REOPENING INFORMATION & RESOURCES

*County of San Diego - K12 Updated from 7/28 School Telebriefing https://drive.google.com/file/d/1iYAPFgwW0EkePKPdDDBZodNbMoMS8u1p/view?usp=sharing

FREE COVID-19 TESTING/PRUEBAS DE COVID-19 GRATIS (Email sent to parents on 7-30-20) https://drive.google.com/file/d/1qjyZmoMVktlmkwoX0uYWOGHNMJBQQnMN/view?usp=sharing

REGULAR VIRTUAL ZOOM BOARD MEETING: Thurs., August 13th @ 5pm - Change of Location - Virtual Zoom Board Meeting

On Thursday, August 13th beginning at 5:00 p.m. there will be a Regular Board Meeting. This governing board meeting will be held virtually in order to adhere to the social distancing regulations embedded within Governor Gavin Newsom's Stay-At-Home Executive Order which is in response to the coronavirus pandemic.

The email for public comment is: publiccomment@sysdschools.org. Board agendas will indicate the need for the public to submit their public comment via email at publiccomment@sysdschools.org. There will be a 300 word limit to the public comments to align with our district's 3 minute public comment board policy.

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

MRS. COLOM WILL BE A PANELIST ON THE CALIFORNIA'S ENGLISH LEARNER ROAD MAP DISCUSSION SPONSORED BY IMAGINE LEARNING

On Thursday, August 6, 2020 Mrs. Colom will participate in a panel discussion about maintaining the focus for English learner students during distance learning. The discussion highlighted how vital it is to provide meaningful access to higher quality and rigorous instruction that is academically, culturally and linguistically accessible to English learner students.

ONLINE REGISTRATION

Registration for the 2020-21 continues via a contactless process. This year preschool students are also enrolling via the online registration process. https://www.sysdschools.org/Page/1057