San Ysidro School District
Independent Study Learning Contract
2021-2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Name:</th>
<th>School in 2021-22:</th>
<th>Grade Entering 2021-22 School Year:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current School in 2020-21:</td>
<td>Student's Address:</td>
<td>Student's Age:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parent/Guardian Names:</td>
<td>Parent Phone #s:</td>
<td>Student's Birth Date:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parent Emails:</td>
<td>Contract Start Date:</td>
<td>Contract End Date:</td>
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2021-2022 School of Enrollment: ______________________________________

Components of Master Agreement

A written agreement shall be developed and implemented for each student participating in independent study for three or more consecutive school days. (Education Code 46300, 51747; 5 CCR 11703)

The agreement shall include general student data, including the student's name, address, grade level, birth date, school of enrollment, and program placement.

The independent study agreement for each participating student also shall include, but not be limited to, all of the following: (Education Code 51747; 5 CCR 11700, 11702)

1. The manner, time, frequency, and place for submitting the student's assignments, for reporting the student’s academic progress, and for communicating with a student’s parent or guardian regarding a student’s academic progress

2. The objectives and methods of study for the student's work and the methods used to evaluate that work

3. The specific resources, including materials and personnel, that will be made available to the student. These resources shall include confirming or providing access to all students to the connectivity and devices adequate to participate in the educational program and complete assigned work.

4. A statement of the Board's policy detailing the maximum length of time allowed between an assignment and its completion, the level of satisfactory educational progress, and the number of missed assignments which will trigger an evaluation of whether the student should be allowed to continue in independent study

5. The duration of the independent study agreement, including the beginning and ending dates for the student's participation in independent study under the agreement, with a maximum of one school year

6. A statement of the number of course credits or, for an elementary student, other measures of academic accomplishment appropriate to the agreement, to be earned by the student upon completion
7. A statement detailing the academic and other supports that will be provided to address the needs of students who are not performing at grade level, or need support in other areas, such as English learners, individuals with exceptional needs in order to be consistent with the student’s IEP or 504 plan, students in foster care or experiencing homelessness, and students requiring mental health supports.

8. A statement that independent study is an optional educational alternative in which no student may be required to participate.

9. In the case of a suspended or expelled student who is referred or assigned to any school, class, or program pursuant to Education Code 48915 or 48917, a statement that instruction may be provided through independent study only if the student is offered the alternative of classroom instruction.

10. Signatures of the student, the parent/guardian or caregiver of the student, the certificated employee responsible for the general supervision of independent study, and all persons who have direct responsibility for providing assistance to the student.

The parent/guardian's signature on the agreement shall constitute permission for the student to receive instruction through independent study. Signatures may be electronic as outlined in law. (Education Code 51747(g)(9))

**Return to In-Person Instruction:** If a student’s family wishes the student to return to in-person instruction from independent study, the parent/guardian shall contact the independent study program’s principal. The student shall be transitioned back to in-person instruction expeditiously, and, in no case, later than five instructional days from the family making such request. (Education Code 41747(f)) (This does not apply when a student participates in independent study for fewer than 15 days in a school year.)

**Agreement:**

**Objectives, Methods of Study, Methods of Evaluation, and Resources:** We understand that the student is to complete the subjects/courses listed below, and that subject/course objectives reflect the curriculum adopted by the district's governing board and are consistent with district standards, as outlined in the district's subject/course descriptions. The following subjects/courses will be provided: English Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies, Science, Physical Education, and Elective/ELD. Student’s completion of subject/course material will be evaluated by the teacher based on completion of classroom assignments and tests. Each student will be assigned a teacher and will be provided any resources needed to complete the work assigned. This includes confirming, or providing access to, the connectivity and devices adequate to participate in the educational program and complete assigned work. Upon completion of this contract, middle school students will earn credits for each of their courses, and elementary school students will advance to the next grade level, assuming the full year is completed.

**Reporting to Teacher:** We understand that students are required to report to their teacher(s) as scheduled virtually on Google Classroom, or as otherwise directed by the teacher(s).

**Frequency & Time:** Participation will be daily, following the San Ysidro School District Student Calendar. Assignments will be turned in daily through an online platform, or as directed by the teacher(s).

**Synchronous Instruction and Live Interaction:** (For students participating in independent study for 15 school days or more.) For students in grades TK-3 independent study will include opportunities for daily synchronous instruction. For students in grades 4-8, independent study will include opportunities for at least weekly synchronous instruction and daily live interaction.

**Attendance:** We understand that chronic absenteeism affects a student's opportunity to achieve grade level academic proficiency. Therefore, we agree to ensure daily participation in independent study. Lack
of participation may result in placement in a regular in-person instructional model at an available school site.

**Progress Reporting.** A student’s academic progress will be reported and communicated to parents using the Google Classroom and/or Synergy platforms.

**Assignments/Evaluation of Success in Program:** The maximum length of time that will be allowed between the assignment and the date the assignment is due is two weeks.

An evaluation shall be conducted to determine whether it is in a student's best interest to remain in independent study, or whether the student should return to the regular school program, whenever: (1) the student misses three assignments, unless the student's written agreement specifies a lower or higher number of missed assignments based on the nature of the assignments, the total number of assignments, and/or other unique circumstances; or (2) the student fails to make satisfactory educational progress. “Satisfactory educational progress” shall be determined based on all of the following indicators:

(a) the student's achievement and engagement in the independent study program, as indicated by the student's performance on applicable student-level measures of student achievement and student engagement set forth in Education Code 52060(d)(4) and (5) (as referenced in the district’s LCAP);

(b) the completion of assignments, assessments, or other indicators that evidence that the student is working on assignments;

(c) learning required concepts, as determined by the supervising teacher; and

(d) progressing toward successful completion of the course of study or individual course, as determined by the supervising teacher.

A written record of the findings of any evaluation made pursuant to this paragraph shall be treated as a mandatory interim pupil record. The record shall be maintained for a period of three years from the date of the evaluation and, if the student transfers to another California public school, the record shall be forwarded to that school. (Education Code 51745(b))

**Academic Proficiency:** We understand that students participating in independent study are expected to achieve academic proficiency within their grade level. In the event a student is struggling academically, the district/school may require the student to participate in any of the following: a) in-person academic intervention program/s at the school site; b) parent/student/teacher/administrator conferences; c) student study team meetings w/ parent/guardian and student; and/or d) return to full in-person learning at school during the academic school year.

**Supports:** If a student is not performing at grade level, the District will provide academic and other supports to address the student’s needs. Parents and teachers of English learners, students on IEPs or 504 plans, students in foster care or experiencing homelessness, and students requiring mental health support will work with the site administrator to coordinate support in these areas. Parents may request a conference to discuss their student’s needs.

**Assessments:** We understand some assessments including state assessments such as, but not limited to the SBAC and ELPAC, along with district benchmark assessments will need to be completed in-person and agree to taking these assessments in-person at the designated SYSD site at the scheduled date and time.

**Student Behavior:** We understand that students are expected to follow school rules and behavior expectations. Failure to follow school rules may result in the district/school returning the student to full
in-person instruction at school.

**Video Camera On:** Students participating virtually are expected to keep their video camera turned on during daily teacher instructional lessons. If the student/family does not feel comfortable with the video camera turned on during instructional lessons then the district recommends the student participate in full in-person instruction at school.

**Voluntary Statement:** We understand that independent study is an optional educational alternative that students voluntarily select, including students covered under California *Education Code* sections 48915 and 48917. All students who choose independent study must be offered the alternative of classroom instruction, and they must have the continuing option of returning to the classroom.

**Limitations (Virtual Learning Academy):** We understand that there may be limited space at a student’s home school and therefore a student returning from Virtual Learning Academy to in-person instruction may be placed at a SYSD school with space available at the time of entry. We understand that students may be placed with multiple grade levels such as a combination of students in grades 3 and 4 in one Virtual Classroom. It is also possible that students may be placed in a virtual classroom comprised of students from two different schools. In such a case, the student may need to submit a transfer request to be enrolled in that particular school’s class roster only for the duration of the virtual learning. The term is one semester for middle school or one trimester at a time for elementary. The district has the discretion to place the student in a partial or full in-person learning program if the student is struggling with attendance, or academic proficiency.

**Quality and Quantity: Rights and Privileges; Resources and Services:** The independent study option is to be substantially equivalent in quality and quantity to classroom instruction. Students who choose to engage in independent study are to have equality of rights and privileges with the same access to existing services and resources as students in the regular school program. In the case of a suspended or expelled student who is referred or assigned to any school, class, or program pursuant to Education Code 48915 or 48917, a statement that instruction may be provided through independent study only if the student is offered the alternative of classroom instruction.

Students with Individualized Education Programs (“IEP”) and Section 504 plans are welcome to apply to the SYSD Virtual Learning Academy. Admission decisions will be made based on the ability of the services and supports provided by SYSD’s Virtual Learning Academy to meet the individual’s unique educational needs. If the student has an IEP or Section 504 plan, please indicate as such in the box below and a member of the Special Education Department will contact you to discuss the programming options available for the student.

___ My child has an IEP.

___ My child has a Section 504 plan.

___ Not applicable.

**REQUIRED SIGNATURES**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Signature</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parent/Guardian</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supervising Teacher(s) or Teacher Representative</td>
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| AUTHORIZATION OR DENIAL OF CONTRACT |
| Principal/District Administrator Signature: | _______ APPROVED | DATE: |
| | _______ DENIED |  |

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