



Ask Dr. Rodriguez



Top Ten Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) Edition #18 – Week of August 10, 2020

Questions are quoted as I received them directly from our community

1. How will the distance learning experience for students be different this 2020-21 school year from what was in place last year?

There are five key differences between the distance learning experience this year versus last spring. The key changes were implemented based on student, family and staff feedback.

- Daily live synchronous instruction for students
- More structured schedules and allocated time for content/subject areas (elementary) and periods (secondary)
- Weekly planner to ensure students and families understand expectations around tasks, assignments and learning for the week
- Daily office hours for teachers and staff to address individual student and family questions
- Additional social emotional support through Social Emotional Learning (SEL) time each morning and PVPSA.

2. I'm a teacher and due to the pandemic, there have been changes to my child's daycare's hours of operation. I REALLY need to know our work schedule so I can find a daycare that matches that. I've been sending emails and making phone calls, but I have not heard back. Can you please announce the teacher and student schedule for the year? I saw the draft schedule for the first week in the contingency plan, but when will I know what the semester will look like? It is causing a huge amount of stress and anxiety that I have less than a week and my work is not providing the information about my work schedule.

The PVUSD Reopening Contingency Plan contains all of the schedules for all weeks and all grade levels for the first semester. Your principal has these details from the Contingency Plan regarding schedules by grade level that will give you the information you need. The schedule will remain consistent until after the winter break. A few additional schedule samples are shown here:

High Risk TK/K				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Synchronous Whole class SEL, Routines, & Daily Learning Goals Classroom Meeting 8:45 - 9:15 AM	Synchronous Whole class SEL, Routines, & Daily Learning Goals Classroom Meeting 8:45 - 9:15 AM	Synchronous Whole class SEL, Routines, & Daily Learning Goals Classroom Meeting 8:45 - 9:15 AM	Synchronous Whole class SEL, Routines, & Daily Learning Goals Classroom Meeting 8:45 - 9:15 AM	Synchronous Whole class SEL, Routines, & Daily Learning Goals Classroom Meeting 8:45 - 9:15 AM
Synchronous small group instruction. Other students are completing Asynchronous assigned learning tasks 9:30 - 10:30 AM	Synchronous small group instruction. Other students are completing Asynchronous assigned learning tasks 9:30 - 10:30 AM	Synchronous small group instruction. Other students are completing Asynchronous assigned learning tasks 9:30 - 10:30 AM	Synchronous small group instruction. Other students are completing Asynchronous assigned learning tasks 9:30 - 10:30 AM	Synchronous small group instruction. Other students are completing Asynchronous assigned learning tasks 9:30 - 10:30 AM
Synchronous whole class instruction (LA, Math), followed by small group and intervention instruction as needed. Time set by site and grade level 10:45 AM - 11:45 AM	Synchronous whole class instruction (LA, Math), followed by small group and intervention instruction as needed. Time set by site and grade level 10:45 AM - 11:45 AM	Synchronous whole class instruction (LA, Math), followed by small group and intervention instruction as needed. Time set by site and grade level 10:45 AM - 11:45 AM	Synchronous whole class instruction (LA, Math), followed by small group and intervention instruction as needed. Time set by site and grade level 10:45 AM - 11:45 AM	Synchronous whole class instruction (LA, Math), followed by small group and intervention instruction as needed. Time set by site and grade level 10:45 AM - 11:45 AM
Lunch 11:45 - 12:30	Lunch 11:45 - 12:30	Lunch 11:45 - 12:30	Lunch 11:45 - 12:30	Lunch 11:45 - 12:30
Office Hours/Google Meet check in with students/calls 12:30 - 1:15 PM	Office Hours/Google Meet check in with students/calls 12:15 - 3:15 PM	Office Hours/Google Meet check in with students/calls 12:15 - 3:15 PM	Office Hours/Google Meet check in with students/calls 12:15 - 3:15 PM	Office Hours/Google Meet check in with students/calls 12:15 - 3:15 PM

High Risk Lower Elementary 1-3

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Synchronous Whole class SEL, Routines, & Daily Learning Goals Classroom Meeting 9:00- 9:30 AM	Synchronous Whole class SEL, Routines, & Daily Learning Goals Classroom Meeting 9:00- 9:30 AM	Synchronous Whole class SEL, Routines, & Daily Learning Goals Classroom Meeting 9:00- 9:30 AM	Synchronous Whole class SEL, Routines, & Daily Learning Goals Classroom Meeting 9:00- 9:30 AM	Synchronous Whole class SEL, Routines, & Daily Learning Goals Classroom Meeting 9:00- 9:30 AM
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Synchronous whole class instruction (LA, ELD, Math), followed by small group and Intervention instruction as needed Time set by site and grade level 11:00 AM-12:20 PM	Synchronous whole class instruction (LA, ELD, Math), followed by small group and Intervention instruction as needed Time set by site and grade level 11:00 AM-12:20 PM	Synchronous whole class instruction (LA, ELD, Math), followed by small group and Intervention instruction as needed Time set by site and grade level 11:00 AM-12:20 PM	Synchronous whole class instruction (LA, ELD, Math), followed by small group and Intervention instruction as needed Time set by site and grade level 11:00 AM-12:20 PM	Synchronous whole class instruction (LA, ELD, Math), followed by small group and Intervention instruction as needed Time set by site and grade level 11:00 AM-12:20 PM
Lunch 12:20 - 1:05	Lunch 12:20 - 1:05	Lunch 12:20 - 1:05	Lunch 12:20 - 1:05	Lunch 12:20 - 1:05
1:05 - 1:45 PM Office Hours/Google Meet check in with students/calls	Office Hours/Google Meet check in with students/calls 1:05 -3:30 PM	Office Hours/Google Meet check in with students/calls 1:05 -3:30 PM	Office Hours/Google Meet check in with students/calls 1:05 -3:30 PM	Office Hours/Google Meet check in with students/calls 1:05 -3:30 PM

3. **The initial informational flyer about the virtual academy stated that we would be able to return to our neighborhood school at the end of the semester if we choose. Is that correct? I heard from Bradley that when we chose the virtual academy, we would lose our place at the school and have to reapply.**

Any student that is in PVUSD Virtual Academy may return to their original site after the first semester or before the beginning of the following school year. They do not have to reapply. They will need to request the transfer back to the site through Student Services so they can make the necessary changes.

4. **Thank you for all PVUSD has done. I saw the high school athletic schedule. Do we have one for Aptos Junior High? I have an excited boy wanting to play flag football.**

Outside athletic leagues and intramural sports will align with the same youth sports guidance from the State and schedule as the high schools. Currently, the timeline for football is December 14, 2020, however, that may change according to health conditions.

5. **Will boys and girls volleyball start during the same season?**

Yes, they are considered a fall sport and will begin on December 14, 2020. Below is the current schedule provided by California Interscholastic Federation (CIF).

<u>Fall Sports (Season 1)</u>	<u>Practice Start Date</u>	<u>State Final Date</u>
Cross Country	12/14/2020	3/27/2021
Field Hockey	12/14/2020	N/A
Football	12/14/2020	4/17/2021
Water Polo (Boys & Girls)	12/14/2020	3/20/2021
Volleyball (Boys & Girls)	12/14/2020	3/20/2021
Competitive Cheer	N/A	4/17/2021
Gymnastics	TBD	N/A
<u>Spring Sports (Season 2)</u>	<u>Practice Start Date</u>	<u>State Final Date</u>
Badminton	2/22/2021	5/29/2021
Soccer (Boys & Girls)	2/22/2021	6/5/2021
Tennis (Boys & Girls)	2/22/2021	6/5/2021
Swimming & Diving (Boys & Girls)	3/8/2021	6/5/2021
Wrestling (Boys & Girls)	3/15/2021	6/12/2021
Basketball (Boys & Girls)	3/15/2021	6/19/2021
Baseball	3/15/2021	6/26/2021
Golf (Boys & Girls)	3/15/2021	6/23/2021
Lacrosse (Boys & Girls)	3/15/2021	N/A
Softball	3/15/2021	6/26/2021
CSC	3/15/2021	N/A
Track & Field	3/15/2021	6/26/2021

6. I still have not received an update about my child's transfer approval or declined. How will I receive the answer?

If you applied for an elementary transfer, you should have already heard. If you applied for a secondary transfer, you should call the school and ask about your transfer status. If you need further assistance, please contact Rick Ito at Student Services at 786-2390.

7. I teach at a school in the district where many students are without internet and hotspots don't work. My understanding is that teachers will be providing these students with weekly packets and following up daily with each student via phone. As a teacher, I will do my best to connect with and teach these students. However, I am very concerned about them. Many of the students in this situation are already struggling academically and I fear that this will put them at an even greater disadvantage. What other options are there for the students who find themselves in this situation?

Our goal is to ensure that students have internet access so they can access the distance learning provided to the entire class. We have 3,000 additional hot spots for students that do not have internet at home that are being handed out through the individual school sites. Students that live in rural areas that do not have a strong cell signal, and therefore cannot use a hotspot, should be referred to the Interactive Dialogue Process. Through this process, additional supports will be provided including possible access to the Safe Spaces which will be at five of our schools throughout the District. Your principal has more information about making such a referral.

8. Are we going to be on distance learning the full school year or are we at least going to go back to campus?

Returning physically back to campus during the 2020-2021 school year will depend primarily on the current health conditions within Santa Cruz County after the winter break. Throughout the first semester, we will be monitoring health conditions and communicating updated information to students and families as it becomes available.

9. I am a substitute teacher. Will there be a substitute teacher program during the virtual learning period?

There will still be a need for substitute teachers for staff who are absent during distance learning. We are providing specialized technology training to substitute teachers, so they are prepared to take on the current instructional model. To ensure that you are on the list to be trained, please contact Human Resources at 786-2145.

10. As a parent of two teens, what can students expect in going to Virtual Academy? Will there be flexible schedule? Will it always be zoom classes? How will the classes work?

Students will have greater flexibility through the Virtual Academy. They must still complete a minimum of 20 hours a week of instruction with a recommended 4 hours each day all of which will be done online. However, students may complete additional work and advance through courses at a faster pace. Weekly Virtual Coaching Sessions will be required and set for the same day and time each week via Google Meet. There will be daily individual office hour times with content specific teachers available throughout the week. Students will be using the Florida Virtual Global online courses using Buzz Learning Management System as well as additional digital interactive tools including Seesaw, Flipgrid, KAMI, Screencastify, Jamboard, Desmos. A Personalized Learning Plan (PLP) will be developed for each student with their supervising teacher and with counselor support to match their interests, current graduation requirement needs and post-graduation goals.