



Stephanie Anello
Superintendent

Preparing Students for Success in College, Career, and Life.

March 31, 2020

Dear AUSD Families,

We hope you and your family are staying healthy during this challenging time. As you are aware, our schools are currently closed until May 1st due to the COVID-19 shelter-in-place. The purpose of this letter is to give you an overview of the Antioch Unified School District's online, distance learning plan and what you can expect in the coming weeks.

We realize students are experiencing a major disruption to their learning schedule, and that parents and guardians are charged with finding new ways to manage their lives. Ensuring that every student maintains their learning is our main goal. Instructional leaders, principals, teachers, and counselors are working together to transition to our distance learning plan. As the District prepares for its "soft roll out" sometime during the week of April 6, teachers and students can begin taking steps to work and interact remotely through our distance learning platforms. Here is some information to help our school community prepare.

AUSD's Distance Learning Plan

Distance learning occurs when the student and instructor are in different locations. Although distance learning does not completely replace or replicate the physical in-school environment, we plan to utilize digital and non-digital instruction to maintain learning in the interim. Sometime during the week of April 6:

- Your child's teacher will create learning experiences that seek to provide a maintenance of learning.
- Printed materials will be provided for students who do not have access to technology.
- **If you do not have the technology to access online, distance learning, please know we will be working with you to provide a device for your student to use if you would like. The date/time for pick-up will be provided once we have the information from the technology student survey (<https://tinyurl.com/ausd-tech-survey>). More information regarding a specific date and time for pick up will be provided in an autodialer or other communication.**
- Your teachers will have daily virtual office hours to communicate directly with students and families.
- Teachers will also be reaching out to students who have not engaged in learning to offer support and guidance.
- Your child's school will communicate and post specific distance learning plans on their websites each week.

Student Feedback and Grading

- Teachers will provide feedback to high school students on work submitted and keep track of completed assignments for 3rd trimester and 4th quarter grading purposes.
- Grading will not apply to K-8 students, only documentation of work completed.

- For the time being, secondary teachers will issue Credit/No Credit for 4th quarter/semester grades based on work completed.
- Clarification on the need of physical grades for students graduating and transitioning to the 4 year college systems is still under review and will be once the California Department of Education issues their guidance.

Students with Disabilities

- IEP meetings will be conducted through a web platform to assure compliance and deadlines are met.
- Service providers will prepare appropriate distance Learning activities that can be performed at home.

English Language Learners

- Integrated English Language Development (ELD) will continue to be embedded in classroom lessons, activities and instruction.
- Specific resources will be available for designated ELD instruction.

Counseling Support

- K-8 school counselors will provide weekly video conferences/webinars and/or packets to include various counseling topics, such as self care, self regulation techniques, and social-emotional supports.
- High school counselors will provide weekly video conferences/webinars and/or packets to include various counseling topics, such as college & career planning, financial aid, course requests/scheduling for next school year, and social-emotional supports.
- All school counselors will host virtual office hours daily for individual or group video or voice conferences with students and parents.

Home Based Learning Tips for Parents

- Set up a daily routine, including breaks, and healthy eating and sleeping habits
- Provide a place and time for school work
- Check on and talk daily with your child about his/her assignments
- Promote literacy by reading to your child and by reading yourself
- Limit and monitor TV watching, gaming, social media
- Encourage physical activities
- Express high expectations and standards for your child's learning
- Access the resources available on the AUSD webpage located at <https://www.antiochschools.net/domain/2649>

To support regular communication with your student's teachers and school administration, we are asking that everyone register for an **Aeries Parent Portal** account if you have not already done so. **This is extremely important and timely. Directions are attached to this letter.**

Please continue to access our website at <https://www.antiochschools.net> for continued updates.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Anello
Stephanie Anello
Superintendent