



# Gilroy Unified School District Distance Learning

Special Board Meeting  
July 14, 2020

*Item 7a.  
Added 7/14/2020 at 4:32 pm*

# Background Information


- Welcome and thanks to everyone for the feedback we have received over the past week
- In mid May –the Fall 2020 Planning Committee was formed which was comprised of teachers , classified staff, paras, executive members of all three unions , principals, Cabinet members, board member, nurses, and counselor (30).
- The Planning Committee and three subcommittees met for almost two months working diligently on the Fall 2020 plan for reopening
- Parents, staff and students were surveyed about the distance learning provided last school year and asked questions about going forward
- The GUSD plan was finalized after the Santa Clara County Public Health Department and the Santa Clara County Office of Education released their guidelines for school districts on June 30, 2020

# The District's initial proposal for Fall 2020 was as follows ;

- Elementary – return to school 5 days per week
- Middle school – hybrid model with 2 days in school and 3 days distance learning
- High school – distance learning 5 days per week


The District's proposal was based on guidance from the Public Health Department including scientific studies that indicate younger children are at low risk of transmitting COVID19 to other children or adults.

It was also based on providing the best instructional program possible at all levels, experiences during the spring distance learning program and the developmental levels of students.



# The District's Current Proposal for Fall 2020


The District's current proposal for Fall 2020 is for all students preschool through 12<sup>th</sup> grade to begin the school year in distance learning. The major reasons for this change are as follows;

- The increase in the number of COVID19 cases and hospitalizations in our County
  - Survey results completed by our unions indicating that most staff do not feel safe returning to school due to COVID19
  - Recent cases in our school community
  - Governor's Newsom's orders yesterday placing more restrictions on many counties and his comments about distance learning
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# How Will Distance Learning Work in the Fall 2020

- School districts had very little time to develop their distance learning plans in mid March 2020 when schools were closed and there were minimal guidelines from the State
- Several recently passed bills will lead to major changes in distance learning plans in school districts this fall which will include strong accountability measures
- There will be much more consistency in what is offered and the new legislation requires daily interactions with students
- Dr. Padilla and Ms. Biermann will provide an overview of the GUSD Distance Learning Plan
- Mr. Meza and Mr. Winslow will review the new guidelines from the State for district learning plans
- Afterwards, we will be happy to answer board member questions
- There are also many public comments which staff will read into the record.

# Distance Learning - all levels

- Daily schedule for students
  - Daily attendance and participation monitoring
  - Grades, progress monitoring, and feedback
  - Use of adopted curriculum
  - Consistency in contact time; daily teacher interaction
  - Principal oversight and monitoring
  - Teacher office hours
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# Distance learning- all levels

- English language development for English learners
  - Intervention and student support
  - Expectations and accountability for student participation- outreach to re-engage absent students
  - Outreach for students' non-academic needs
  - Regular teacher collaboration
  - Ongoing professional development for staff
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## Elementary

- Whole group and small group instruction
- Intervention
- Defined grade level scope and sequence for focus standards
- Common progress monitoring within and across sites

## Secondary

- Return to standard A-F grading
- Opportunities for “virtual” activities
- Opportunities for small group and individualized support



# Reopening Schools in 2020-21

2019-20

Because school districts were compelled to shut down quickly, they received blanket flexibility to complete the school year, including an ADA hold harmless and waived penalties for minimum instructional minutes and instructional days

2020-21

Different expectations:

- Requirements for annual instructional minutes and PE minutes waived
- Requirements for daily instructional minutes and minimum number of instructional days in the school year maintained

# Instructional Days and Minutes Requirements

This section is also not intended to prevent an LEA from adopting a distance learning, hybrid, or mixed-delivery instructional model to ensure safety . . . provided the model adheres to an applicable state or local public health order or guidance.

Senate and Assembly Letters to the Journal

Flexibility for how districts may meet the daily instructional minute and annual instructional day requirements

For distance learning, instructional time based on time value of assignments as determined by certificated staff

For hybrid days, instructional time based on a combination of time scheduled with teachers and time value of assignments

# Accountability Distance Learning—Requirements

Minimum  
standards for  
distance  
learning  
include:

Confirm and provide technology for all students

Content aligned to grade level standards, and quality and intellectual challenge equivalent to in -classroom instruction

Supports for students performing below grade level, English learner students, students with disabilities, foster youth, and homeless youth

Accommodations to ensure individualized education plans can be executed

For English learner students, continue assessments of English language proficiency and ability to reclassify as English proficient

Daily live interaction with teachers and classmates



# Distance Learning—Attendance

Weekly engagement record for each student that documents distance learning instruction, verifies daily participation in distance learning, and tracks assignments

A student who does not participate in in-person instruction or distance learning is deemed absent that day

Tiered reengagement strategies must be developed for all students who are absent from distance learning for more than 60% of a school week

- Daily notification to parents of absences
- Plan for outreach to determine student needs, including health and social services
- **When feasible, transitioning the student to full -time in-person instruction**