



# ALUM ROCK

# UNION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

---

2930 Gay Avenue, San José, CA 95127 · Phone: 408-928-6800 · Fax: 408-928-6416 · [www.arusd.org](http://www.arusd.org)

---

Dear Alum Rock Families,

As we celebrate ARUSD's 90 Years of Excellence and look towards the 2021-2022 school year, ARUSD is preparing for the return of all students to in-person learning for the full school day on Tuesday, August 17, 2021, while maintaining the safest possible environment for our students. According to CDC guidance, students benefit from in-person learning, and safely returning to in-person instruction in the fall 2021 is a priority.

### **In-Person Learning**

We look forward to having all of our students back in-person. ARUSD will continue to have safety protocols in place to support the health and safety of our community, and we will be monitoring state requirements and will be adapting our safety plan as required. In addition, we will continue providing all students with one to one device - Chromebook or iPad.

### **Safety Protocols**

The state plays an important role in our preparations and we are continuing to gather some key details to complete our preparations. The California Department of Health has released [updated requirements for K-12 schools](#) for 2021-2022. Students are required to mask indoors and adults are required to mask when sharing indoor space with students. This mask mandate applies to vaccinated and unvaccinated students and staff. In-person instruction can occur safely without minimum physical distancing requirements when other mitigation strategies are implemented. ARUSD will continue to provide hand sanitation stations throughout as well as daily disinfection of high traffic areas. We will continue to update you as we receive additional guidelines right before school starts.

### **Independent Studies-**

The State of California is requiring school districts to offer independent studies for students **whose health would be at risk by in-person instruction, as determined by the parent or guardian** for 2021-2022 school year only. ARUSD will offer an Independent Studies program for those students whose health would be put at risk as determined by parent/guardian. **Special Needs Students' cannot participate in Independent Studies unless the IEP specifically allows for such participation. Unfortunately due to the curricular specifics to the dual language programs, the district is not able to offer the Independent Studies option for students in these programs.**

Independent Studies guidelines:

- Students are required to meet daily for a designated time with their assigned teacher.
- Daily live instruction: Grades TK-3 : Daily synchronous (live) instruction  
Grade 4-8: Daily live interaction and weekly synchronous (live) instruction
- Families who elect the Independent Studies program for their student(s) will sign a written agreement outlining all the details of the independent study course.

---

Hilaria Bauer, Ph.D., Superintendent

Board of Trustees: Corina Herrera-Loera, President · Andrés Quintero, Vice-President  
Ernesto Bejarano, Clerk · Linda Chavez, Member · Minh Pham, Member

- Students who miss more than three school days or 60% of instructional days or who are in violation of a written contract will work with district personnel to follow re-engagement strategies established by the district.
- Families that are interested will be required to attend an orientation meeting
- Families have the right to request a pupil-parent-educator meeting before enrolling.
- Students that sign an agreement to begin the school year in Independent Studies and later choose to transition to in-person instruction, will not be guaranteed a reentry to their home school and/or their homeroom teacher.


\* Please note this is **not the same** as 2020-2021 Distance Learning requirements.

### Survey

Please complete this survey **for each and every one of your children** attending ARUSD by Tuesday, July 27th. **SURVEY**

We appreciate your support as we continue to work our way out of the pandemic while providing the best possible learning experience for our students. We will continue to share additional information about the 2021-2022 school year as information becomes available. For any questions please contact 408-928-6945.

Sincerely,



Dr. Hilaria Bauer, Superintendent