

Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan
Questions and Input from DELAC/EL PAC

The following questions were asked by the EL- Parent Advisory Committee Meeting and the Parent Advisory Committee on September 10 and 11, 2020.

Questions on In-Person Instructional Offerings

Will in-person classes be two days per week with three days of distance learning?

At this time, the plan outlined for blended learning, developed by the district's Back to School Task Force, includes in-person classes taking place two days each week and distance learning three days each week to provide physical distancing as required. The Back to School Task Force will reconvene prior to students returning to school to see how the experience in the full-time Distance Learning may modify what in-person blended learning will look like.

When will blended learning take place?

In person, blended learning cannot take place until Los Angeles County meets the criteria for in-person instruction on school campuses. When the County meets these criteria and schools are permitted to re-open, the district will revisit our plan, reconvene the Back to School Task Force, and make other needed arrangements to determine the best course of action for students and staff.

Is it a good idea during this pandemic for students to go back to school two days per week? Do we know when students are returning to school?

Students may return to school when LA County meets all criteria for schools to safely reopen, the district has plans for safe return to campuses as well as other considerations that are essential. Even though the County may allow schools to reopen, we assess what is best for our students and community.

Will blended learning be optional or mandatory? Will there be a waiver for in-person learning?

The plan developed by the Back to School Task Force provides parents the option to select either blended learning or full distance learning. This plan will be revisited as needed.

Is childcare offered through STAR being offered to all families?

The City provides childcare at each elementary and middle school for a limited number of children. Parents who are interested in this service can contact the City or Paramount Parks and Recreation Department.

Questions on Distance Learning Program

Can you provide a schedule for grades 6-12 students?

There is a daily/weekly instructional schedule for middle and high school students; schedules were sent to students and parents from each school. Parents can check the school websites for the posted Distance Learning Schedules or contact their school.

Can elementary teachers have more personnel to help during class?

Each elementary school has staff to support academic instruction and social emotional learning. Most schools have literacy and math coaches, intervention teachers and all schools have counselors. Each middle and high school has a social worker who works in tandem with counselors to support students and families.

What happens when teachers do not show up for class and students are left waiting?

When there are questions regarding instruction the first step would be to email or contact the teacher. Following that please contact the school office/principal.

Questions on Access to Devices

Do we still have the option for insurance to cover the cost of broken Chromebooks? If parents want to purchase insurance, how much is it? If the insurance is not used, will it be refunded?

Due to COVID, PUSD is providing repairs for Chromebooks. As a result, the extra insurance was not needed this year.

Questions on Supports for Students with Unique Needs

Can speech services occur more frequently?

Speech services are determined by the Individual Educational Learning Plan (IEP) based on each student's needs.

What kind of technology is being used to support students with unique needs like EL students, students with disabilities, and foster youth/homeless?

Students with unique needs have access to supports and services that enhance learning for them. English Learners receive daily English Language Development instruction. Students with disabilities receive services outlined in the IEP remotely. Foster youth/homeless students receive additional support from a full time counselor and tutors. In addition, all students in specific grades have the benefit of online programs such as Khan Academy—for math support in middle and high school—and Lexia for reading instruction in grades TK-2. In addition, PUSD has collaborated with the City of Paramount to offer an online tutoring program that will be available 24 hours a day, seven days a week for students in grades 4-12.

How will students be assessed to see if they will be reclassified?

The four criteria for reclassification are based on the Summative ELPAC, Basic Skills, Teacher Recommendation, and Parent Approval. The Summative ELPAC was administered prior to the closure of schools last school year. The basic skills criteria can be met in a variety of ways, including an online Basic Skills Assessment. Teacher recommendation and parent approval will take place in a remote, online setting as well.

Questions on Mental Health and Social Emotional Well-Being

How will students develop their social skills – socializing with other people? Can 10-15 minutes be set aside for exercises that help students with social-emotional needs?

Social-emotional lessons have been added to the curriculum this year to support social-emotional needs. Counselors and social workers support students; many counselors post information on their school website or Schoology to help students and parents. Parents can contact their school counselor if they need help with social emotional needs for their children.

General Questions

What percentage of students/families (hotspots, meal distribution) take advantage of the different opportunities provided by PUSD?

To date, approximately 700 students have received hotspots and we are currently serving 3,160 total meals per day.