



Mark Twain Union Elementary School District
P.O. Box 1359 ▪ Angels Camp, CA 95222
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Paula Wyant, Superintendent

Monday, August 17, 2020

Dear MTUESD Families,

We have been actively planning since we moved from our Blended Learning Plan to our Full Distance Learning Plan. We have had a COVID work group finishing and finalizing our plan. It was approved on Thursday, August 13, 2020 by our Governing Board. It is designed to show you what to expect in all three learning situations: Full Distance, Blended, and Full On-Site; The staff joins me in sharing that we want our students back to school just as soon as we can safely. It will be posted on our Website.

I have been so very impressed with our entire staff throughout the summer. Many of them didn't take their "typical" summer vacation but kept working, planning, and helping the district as new COVID-19 information and data came up regularly, all with your children at the forefront of their minds. They have been incredibly resourceful and flexible as they have had to reflect, revise, and refine how they do their jobs. They have felt all the same emotions and frustrations you have had regarding the changes and waiting as I have worked through ever-changing health and safety guidelines and practices.

Tuesday, August 18, the whole staff comes together via ZOOM at their school sites for a district day. They will be collaborating and using their creativity throughout the day. They will determine schedules for Outreach-Introduction Conferences. On Wednesday, August 19, we will be contacting families to invite them in via in person OR Zoom to an Outreach-Introduction conference where you will have an opportunity to meet your child's teacher and get some assistance, if needed, with the materials and devices. At this time, we will be collecting information on internet capability, meal information; we will be giving information on schedule for your child's particular classroom and pick up supplies, devices, and materials. Seventh and eighth grade students will meet in advisory groups and receive their schedules at this time, right now we are planning on having students attend 3 courses each day.

Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, August 19 – 21, the staff will be meeting together, taking their mandated trainings, and preparing for the Outreach-Introduction conferences.

Monday, August 24, students begin by completing beginning introductory lessons that will be on the website by grade level, through Wednesday, August 26, to give each classroom teacher an opportunity to have the outreach-introduction meetings with individual families or small groups, socially distanced in the classroom or via ZOOM. The website is www.mtwain.k12.ca.us. The lessons will be posted on Friday, August 19. You may also pick up at the office in Copperopolis El or Mark Twain El.

Students need the following daily minutes of synchronous “live” and asynchronous “recorded or independent”: 180 minutes for grades TK/K; 230 minutes for grades 1 – 3; and 240 minutes for grades 4 – 8. The synchronous (LIVE) activities are when your child will be counted for attendance each day. The teachers will give you your child’s schedule at the outreach-introduction meetings. Asynchronous (Taped/Recorded, Practice work) will also be a part of each day. During the asynchronous time, a minute value will be assigned.

We will be following the regular calendar:

Friday, August 28: Staff In-Service Day, no school

Monday, September 7: Holiday, observing Labor Day

During our October Parent – Teacher Conference, we will begin evaluating the COVID-19 data to determine if we can return to a Blended or Full On-Site model for the Second Trimester, on November 17, 2020.

Wednesday, each week, the attendance, synchronous “live” class instruction will be completed by our support staff, principals, and me. They will be determined by the teachers in their daily schedule. This will not exceed 60 minutes and the remainder of the time will be done through asynchronous “recorded, taped, independent activities”.

We will continue to communicate through the district website, auto-dialers, emails, and texts. We invite you to add to your social media pages to help us spread the word.

I thank you for your patience to this point and your continued flexibility as we move through our start to the year. Please know that we are working hard to bring quality instruction to your child through our virtual-distance learning model. Any thoughts you have, please join me on Monday, Wednesday, or Fridays 6:30 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. each week beginning August 24, 2020 for coffee or tea via ZOOM.



Respectfully,
Ms. Paula

Board of Education: Diane Bateman Jennifer Eltringham Kendall Morlan Timothy Randall Margaret Rollings
“We believe that all students will succeed.”