

# Murrieta Valley USD Frequently Asked Questions

## VIRTUAL LEARNING

Updated 8.6.2020

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### Virtual Learning General Questions

#### **1. *How will Virtual Learning be different from the emergency Distance Learning this past spring?***

Virtual Learning is different from the emergency distance learning experienced last spring. Some of the key features to Virtual Learning will include:

- Daily live instruction and interactions with teacher, and fellow students
- Rigorous standards- equivalent to in-person instruction
- Consistent use of Canvas Learning Management System
- Progress/Report cards and grades
- Ensured access to devices and connectivity
- Required daily attendance
- Required daily instructional minutes
- Academic and other supports for all students

Virtual Learning will adhere to a daily learning schedule, with grades and daily attendance, and significantly more teacher-facilitated interaction and direct teaching of rigorous standards-based content. In addition, schools must keep weekly engagement records for each student documenting the amount of synchronous (live) and asynchronous (recorded) instruction, verifying daily participation, and completed assignments. Schools must regularly communicate with parents/guardians regarding students' academic progress.

#### **2. *How long will we continue in a Virtual Learning format?***

Currently, it is unknown and largely dependent upon State of California and County public health orders.

#### **3. *Where can I find student schedules for Virtual Learning?***

Student/teacher schedules for all school levels (elementary, TK-5 and secondary, 6-12) were developed. Schedules were sent in a parent communication on August 6. Families are encouraged to print and post in an area of the home where students, caregivers and guardians may easily view. Additionally, each teacher will have schedules posted on their Canvas pages.

**4. *My child has an Individualized Education Program (IEP). Will school sites provide special education to my child in a virtual environment?***

Yes. Schools must implement required accommodations, provide special education and related services specified in the student's IEP.

If you have specific questions, concerns, recommendations, or new information pertaining to your student's educational program please call your student's special education teacher or case manager.

**5. *What supplies will my child need for virtual learning?***

Schools sites will be communicating supply needs within the first week of school. For more information, please check your parent email. If you do not have access to the necessarily supplies, please contact your student's teacher.

**6. *Can teachers meet with small groups of students somewhere off campus?***

No. The current State of California mandate prohibits any gathering of non-family members or groups of students.

**7. *Will there be flexibility for working families?***

We understand that every family has a unique set of circumstances and as such, each school site will address family challenges on a case by case basis. For assistance or to discuss options, please reach out to your students' teacher, or school counselor to discuss how we can partner to facilitate student success.

**Virtual Learning Instructional Questions**

**8. *What will preschool look like in Virtual Learning?***

Our preschool virtual learning plans will provide meaningful online instruction. Activities will be age-appropriate and include the corresponding materials sent home every other week. Hands-on activities will be modeled in the teacher's daily videos along with links to extended activities that can be done independently or as a family.

Teachers will be able to evaluate students' progress using digital task cards and weekly virtual check-in meetings with both the student's and families.

**9. *What will Transitional kindergarten and Kindergarten look like in Virtual Learning model?***

Transitional Kindergarten and Kindergarten classes will follow the same standards as elementary grades. The first week of school will be focused on building classroom community, explaining the expectations, and helping students (and families) learn how to use the technology tools. Teachers will also provide weekly schedules for families, so they know when to log in and what assignments to complete.

**10. *Will traditional grading be used in Virtual Learning or will it be Credit/No Credit?***

Yes, Elementary will use traditional standards-based grading. Students will receive a progress report mid-way through the semester and a formal, standards-based report card at the end of the semester. Teachers will regularly communicate student progress to families.

Secondary will also use traditional grading in Virtual Learning. Teachers will review their grading expectations in their individual courses. Report reports will be issued at the end of each semester or trimester. Teachers will regularly communicate student progress to families.

**11. *Will different curriculum and standards be used for Virtual Learning?***

No. The same academic curriculum and rigorous standards families expect from traditional school will be applied for Virtual Learning.

**12. *Will you distribute workbooks for elementary students? Will paper packets be available?***

Yes. Each school will have a materials pick-up day at the beginning of the school year and may designate additional regular materials pick-up days as needed.

**13. *Do middle school and high school students have to take a full schedule of classes?***

Yes. Senate Bill 98 requires all students to meet a minimum number of instructional minutes each day.

**14. *How will I check my student's grades?***

Parents can check their student's grades through their Aeries Parent Portal. Parents will also be able to view student assignments on Canvas with a parent observer account. Information will be provided to families on how to access and view student progress and assignments.

**15. *Will the "live" teacher lessons be recorded so my student can watch them later?***

Yes. Families in need of flexibility are encouraged to make prior arrangements with their students' teachers or counselors.

**Virtual Learning Technology Questions**

**16. *How will we ensure that all students have access to devices and internet to participate in Virtual Learning?***

Beginning in mid-July, school sites sent out device check-out forms for families to submit their technology needs. If your student needs to borrow a device, please contact your school site for more information.

**17. *How will we resolve technical issues, such as forgotten passwords and difficulty logging into a device or program?***

Please call your student's school site. Staff is trained to assist with resetting passwords and walking families through logging in procedures. If there is a more technical issue, they will send a help request on your behalf to our technology department.

**18. *What educational programs will be used for virtual learning?***

Live instruction will be facilitated through Microsoft Teams, Canvas, and Zoom. All other educational websites and links will be placed in Canvas under each teacher's page/class. Additionally, school wide learning links are available on the districts website: [www.murrieta.k12.ca.us/learninglinks](http://www.murrieta.k12.ca.us/learninglinks)

## **Virtual Learning Misc. Questions**

### ***19. Will high school sports be allowed during Virtual Learning?***

On July 20, 2020, the State CIF announced that all high school sports would be pushed back until at least December 2020. The CIF Southern Section has developed a draft calendar for two seasons of sports, with the “fall season” beginning on December 14 for practices. As such, there will be no CIF sports in session until that time.

On August 5, 2020, the California Department of Public Health issued new guidance for youth sports, permitting outdoor conditioning and training. Information from high school Athletic Directors will be forthcoming.

### ***20. Will Physical Education be required in Virtual Learning?***

Yes. Secondary students will still be enrolled in Physical Education as required by education code. Secondary students with physical education on their schedules will meet with teachers virtually during their assigned period and complete independent activities and guided exercises. Elementary physical education activities will be included on the weekly schedules.

### ***21. Do I have the option to continue in a Virtual Learning format if the District returns to in-person instruction later in the year?***

It depends on health orders at that time. Murrieta Valley USD is prepared and ready to offer learning model options for all families. We value parent choice and believe every family should be provided an opportunity to make the best decision for their students’ education to the greatest extent possible.