



Dear SBPSD Parents/Guardians,

On July 9th, 2021, Governor Newsom signed Assembly Bill 130 into law. Assembly Bill 130 requires that an independent study option must be made available to students whose health would be put at risk by in-person instruction due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Parents and guardians of enrolled students have the option of in-person instruction or AB 130 Independent Study. The Independent Study program will be offered for the 2021-2022 school year only. Enrollment in the Independent Study program is an **optional educational alternative** in which no student is required to participate.

Due to the compressed timeframe we are working in, we are asking families to make a selection for the 2021-2022 school year for our planning purposes by completing this [survey](#) by **Friday, August 13, 2021**.

To assist in your selection, we would like to offer a little background. As we have all learned over the last two years, information, rules and guidelines change frequently. This survey is based on the best information we have today. Please review the following factors for 2021-2022.

- All students are expected to attend in-person instruction. However, students and families that feel in-person instruction compromises their health may elect to participate in a Independent Study learning option that will be offered by SBPSD.
- As per the California Department of Education, the AB 130 Independent Study program will include the following:
 - **TK - 3rd grade**, there will be a plan to provide students with opportunities for daily synchronous instruction.
 - **4th - 8th grade**, there will be a plan to provide opportunities for both daily live interaction and at least weekly synchronous instruction.
 - Live interaction means interaction between the student and the teacher, aide or other personnel and may include peers; this interaction may be in person, by internet or phone.
 - Synchronous instruction means classroom-style instruction, or small group, or one-on-one instruction delivered in person or by internet or phone and involving two-way communication between the student and teacher.
 - Prior to enrollment in the AB 130 Independent Study program, families must meet with the SBPSD staff to discuss the program and procedures for enrolling, disenrolling and re-enrolling.
 - Students will be allowed to return to in-person instruction within SBPSD within five days of requesting a return. Every effort will be made to return students to their home school pending space availability. If space is not available, the student will be considered for another school selected by the district.
 - For students who are served under an Individualized Education Plan (IEP), an IEP meeting must be held prior to approval of the Independent Study Program in order to determine if the district can provide a Free, Appropriate, Public Education (FAPE), as identified by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), under the Independent Study Program.

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- Masking and social distancing:
 - For in-person instruction, masks will be required indoors for all staff and students regardless of age or vaccination status.
 - Students with a medical condition that prevents wearing a mask must obtain a medical exemption from a qualified physician in order to attend in-person classes.
 - Per the CDC guidelines, social distancing will not be required on campus.

Once again, in order to best support the District in planning for the upcoming school year, please take a moment to complete the brief [survey](#) by **Friday, August 13th, 2021**.

We appreciate your collaboration and partnership in ensuring a successful school year.

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