



HESPERIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
AND
HESPERIA TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
JOINT COMMUNIQUE
March 19, 2020



The District and HTA met and conferred on March 19 to discuss the impact of COVID-19 on instruction in HUSD. As a result, we are providing this joint communique to detail the impact and expectations of teachers as we transition to distance learning. We are preparing for an extension of closures and working on providing continued learning for our students. As a District, we will be following the state recommendations and moving to distance learning for all students and grade levels. Planning time is being provided the week of March 30th. During that week, there will be conference calls and digital staff meetings to support teachers in this endeavor. We know this transition will be challenging; and therefore remote Professional Learning will be available through videos and resource libraries with a schedule provided to all staff. Distance learning will begin April 6th.

According to the CDE, “distance learning” means instruction in which the student and instructor are in different locations. This may include interacting through the use of computer, phone, paper instructional packets, as well as delivering instruction and check-in time with their teacher. Distance learning may include video or audio instruction in which the primary mode of communication between the student and instructor is on-line interaction, instructional television, video, telecourses, or other instruction that relies on computer or communications technology.

For distance learning to be successful, communication between the teacher, students, and families is crucial. In support of this, specific schedules will be developed at each site through leadership, grade level, department and/or PLC teams. Although teachers will primarily work from home, the campuses will be open for teachers to come in to pick up materials, make copies, and make phone calls as needed. Work with your site administrator, and be sure to follow all CDC guidelines to prevent virus transmission.

This is new and different for all of us but we know we have many teachers in our district with high levels of expertise. Turn to each other for help and support as we problem solve and learn together. Attached please find additional information and further guidance.

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Anticipated Timeline:

March 16- May 1: Students are provided meals at designated sites

March 18- April 3: Ungraded supplemental learning materials available on HUSD website to help sustain previous learning

March 30- April 3: Staff works together to engage in digital PD and prepare distance learning activities

April 6- May 1: Teachers and students are expected to engage in quarter four standards through distance learning

May 1: Teacher work day at sites to prepare for opening of schools on May 4, 2020

In order to meet educational needs and still support our students and families during these very different and difficult times, we are committed to the following guidelines:

- Focus on **essential** fourth quarter standards.
- The focus is on the essential learning, not the instructional minutes.
- Be aware of the SEL needs of our students during these difficult times and consider phone calls, check-ins, daily posts, etc. as means for establishing and continuing rituals and routines.
- Be flexible with pacing as distance learning may require more time for students to complete assignments depending on their own learning styles and technological abilities.
- Each teacher will be responsible for scheduling a block of time each day for “office hours”.
- It will be important to work “office hours” out at each site so there is ample availability for a secondary student to communicate with all of his or her teachers.
- For students without online access, be prepared to send the assignments/projects to site administrators to run copies for student/parent pick up or to be mailed home.
- Special education teachers will provide online/telephonic support to students and consultation to parents in working with their own child in the home.
- Speech therapists and other related service providers are required to provide online or telephonic therapy when possible.

In order to support teachers in this work, here are some resources available to you:

- [CDE Guidance](#)
- [Remote Learning Strategies](#) - Distance Learning Toolkit provided by Meagan Kelly.
- [SBCSS Remote Learning Resources](#)
- [Remote Learning WebTools](#)
- [First Day of Google Classroom](#)