



# CABRILLO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

498 Kelly Avenue, Half Moon Bay, California 94019 • 650 712-7100 • Fax 650 726-0279 • [www.cabrillo.k12.ca.us](http://www.cabrillo.k12.ca.us)

## SUPERINTENDENT

Sean McPhetridge, Ed.D.

July 24, 2020

Dear CUSD Community:

Thanks to all who joined our Governing Board meetings on Thursday 7/16 and on Thursday 7/23 to learn more about CUSD's plan for Opening of Schools. These unprecedented times have provided us an opportunity to reconsider the educational program for our students under this new environment. The overwhelming participation of CUSD staff and our families has demonstrated that we are all indeed in this together in our goal to provide for the best educational program for our students.

After hours of meetings, presentations, and discussion over the past several weeks, the CUSD Opening Schools Steering Committee and CUSD Governing Board determined it would be in the best interest of health and safety of students, families, and staff to begin the 2019-2020 school year using a 100% Remote Learning Model and then gradually lead into our Hybrid Learning Model (Model A) of two (2) days of In-Person Instruction weekly and three (3) days of Remote Learning (Synchronous and Asynchronous) weekly when it is safe to do so. As said previously, our plans will need to adjust, and we will also need to remain flexible based on what we hear from state and county health officials going forward. Regardless, we will work to provide learning opportunities for students ongoing, whether with in-person instruction or remote learning as required of us for health and safety concerns.

We know our community needs to make plans since we are not opening with in-person instruction, so we wanted to share this news now, even as we are still finalizing more details ahead. Below you will find a timeline that will provide you with an overview of the phases of implementation along with the recommendations for Opening of Schools shared at Thursday's CUSD Governing Board Meeting, which was shared along with our Opening of School Plan.



Once science and data suggest it is safe, and once we receive clear guidelines ahead, our goal is to provide a phased-in reopening of schools, gradually leading first to a Hybrid Learning model before we can hopefully look to transitioning back to 100% In-Person learning when it is safe to do so.

Below you will find a summary of our recommendations:

- **Begin 2020-21 school year with 100% Remote Learning for student/staff safety**
- **Using a Phase-In approach, proceed to implementation of Learning Model A when ready:**  
Learning Model A includes Hybrid In-Person Instruction and Remote Learning (students at school 2 days a week In-Person and then 3 days in Asynchronous and Synchronous Remote Learning)
  - **1 day a week for certificated staff** reserved for planning, student/family communication, and/or professional development
  - **Offer families option for a full 100% Remote Learning Model (E):** A full Remote Learning option offered to students/families not ready to return to in-person instruction
  - **Create a Staff and Parent Framework** (handbook to define Protocols and Procedures)
  - **Continuation of OS Input Meetings** throughout 2020

We understand these changes are indeed significant, and we know there will be questions ahead. Some parents have asked about an Independent Study option. At CUSD, we have always had an Independent Study option for our families needing one. Within the days ahead, communication will be sent to you in order to choose the program that is the best fit for your child and family. Please expect additional information about making a learning choice for your students for the 2020-21 school year in days to come. We will also work to continue to provide as much information as it becomes available on our website and through our SchoolMessenger communication.

We want to express our gratitude to everyone who has taken the time to ask a question, share their thoughts, and participate in the process of planning for the fall. We know it takes longer when we involve so many people in weighing in, but it is critical to do so as it assists us in creating the most effective plan possible. We have heard from many stakeholders in our community and will continue to gather more feedback. Some themes have been consistent and clear, and here are just a few:

- The health and safety of our students and our staff are indispensable.
- Our students benefit most from in-person instruction, and community members would like to see a creative approach and collaboration with other agencies to keep equity as a priority and bring back students who are most in need for the help they need to be successful.
- We need to support our teachers, students, and families with professional development, remote learning resources, and curriculum to avoid gaps in student learning.
- Students and their families need consistent access to technology and the internet as well as the support and training to learn about how to use CUSD's various online platforms.
- Our families prefer an aligned schedule K-12 to support a balanced schedule.

Please know CUSD is planning to distribute technology for students in need of a device, including new students to CUSD. We are exploring how increased technology access and connectivity can be provided to students in the fall, pending available funding from both state and federal governments. The COVID-19 pandemic has challenged us in so many ways, but it also provides opportunities for us to come together and listen to a range of viewpoints regarding the best course of action. I want you to know we are listening, and we appreciate how this strong community cares so deeply for all children. We look forward to continuing our work together so students can continue learning during this time.

Again, we thank you for your understanding and support as we work to provide the best education possible for your children while maintaining a healthy and safe learning environment for everyone. Please know we will send out an FAQ within the coming days to describe the implications of our plan to reopen schools, and it will contain specifics pertaining to remote learning, hybrid learning, and related topics. We hope this information helps you plan and choose an appropriate instructional model for your child. We'll share more details about this work and planning in days and weeks ahead.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

*Sean McPhetridge*

E9BCC0326A0B4BB...  
Sean McPhetridge, Ed.D.

Superintendent