

SDUHSD Distance Learning Guidelines for School Community Spring 2020

In accordance with recommendations from the California Department of Public Health and in consultation with the Governing Board, all SDUHSD school campuses were closed on March 13, 2020. The governor issued an executive order on March 19, 2020 mandating statewide shelter-in place restrictions and continues to provide guidance about the duration of such restrictions. The community will receive regular updates about the school closure timeline.

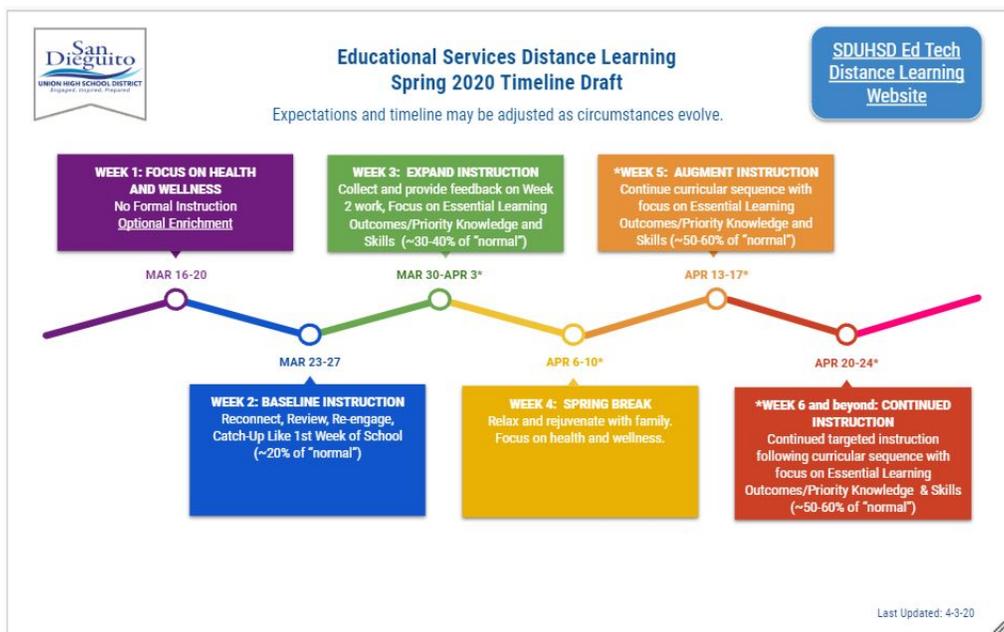
The COVID-19 pandemic presents all of us with personal and professional challenges and SDUHSD remains committed to supporting the students and staff of our school communities. We appreciate the collaboration and compassion shown between colleagues, students and parents as we are all navigating the impact on health and care for ourselves and loved ones. We are modeling to our students the ability to adapt with the understanding that we are working together as partners between school and home to successfully complete the spring 2020 term.

Distance Learning Plan

Distance learning refers to instruction where a student and teacher are in different locations. SDUHSD recognizes that teaching remotely requires a different approach than classroom instruction.

Priorities:

- **The health and welfare of our students, families, and staff is our highest priority.**
- We aim to engage our students in a high-quality distance learning environment with a focus on **essential standards for each course**. Courses will be pared down from what would normally be taught and learned as we focus on what is most important for our students to know and be able to do.
- With a focus on these essential learning outcomes, students will be engaged in up to 50-60% of the normal academic learning load. We acknowledge that the learning environment has changed completely for our teachers and students, so we are sensitive to striking a balance between the well-being of our students and the academics necessary to be prepared for the next grade level course.
- We want to make sure all of our students have access to learning, which is why we have implemented a **framework for learning windows (i.e. specific times in which students can connect with their teachers for learning and/or support)** that resolves conflicts between classes.



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<p>Middle School Distance Learning Plans</p> <p>CVMS</p> <p>DNO</p> <p>EW</p> <p>OCMS</p> <p>PTMS</p>	<p>High Schools Distance Learning Plans:</p> <p>CCA</p> <p>LCC</p> <p>SDA</p> <p>TPHS</p> <p>Sunset</p>
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What does distance learning look like? Distance learning may include live and/or recorded video lessons from your child’s teacher. These lessons will be brief and are intended to support students’ independent learning. This is not intended to be constant instruction but rather instruction which provides the introduction of new content. Students may also have “real-time” check-ins from their teacher using a virtual conferencing platform.

“Synchronous learning” is a general term used to describe **forms of instruction, and learning that occur at the same time, but not in the same place.** The term is most commonly applied to various forms of online learning in which students learn from instructors, or peers in real time, but not in person. For example, live Google Meets, chat-based online discussions, or live Twitter chats would be considered forms of synchronous learning.

Digital learning experiences can also be **“asynchronous”**—i.e., **instruction and learning occur not only in different locations but also at different times.** For example, prerecorded video lessons using screencasts, written exchanges between teachers and students, online discussion boards, and using Google Classroom to organize instructional materials and related correspondence would all be considered forms of asynchronous learning.

Adapted from EdSource [Synchronous Learning](#) 8/29/13, retrieved on 3/30/20.

Access to Curriculum

Teachers may provide students access to curriculum in a variety of ways, including but not limited to:

- Google Classroom or teacher website
- Google Meet and/or Google Chat for interactive discussions and tutorials
- Office hours
- “Flipped” lessons - Teachers prepare a digital lesson, like a screencast, for students to view and then discuss and check for understanding later
- Emailed or posted learning activities
- Project-based learning

Technology During Distance Learning

While distance learning cannot replace the daily classroom experience with your child’s teacher, we want to take important steps to ensure students and families are prepared for the best possible distance learning experience. To secure student safety, privacy, and equitable access to materials, the District will use the Google Suite for all distance learning opportunities and communication. Teachers and students will communicate safely by using only their district Google accounts. Teachers can safely monitor, log, and control access video conferencing while using the Google Suite provided that students log in to all platforms via their district-provided email address. **Please reference [Technology during Distance Learning](#).**

- **Students will need to access their SDUHSD-provided Google accounts to participate in distance learning. This is the same username and password that they usually use for logging into Chromebooks and Google Classroom.** Student login names are: last name + first initial + last 4 digits of permanent ID @my.sduhsd.net. For example: smithj1234@my.sduhsd.net To reset a password, visit my.sduhsd.net.

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- **Students should regularly check their district email address and Google Classrooms for communication from teachers.** Parents should also plan to monitor messages from the school and teachers which will be sent to the parent email address on file in Aeries.
- **Need a Device or Access?** Please contact your school administration to schedule a date/time to pick up a device. We understand that not all families may have access to the internet at home. Our site includes a list of free or reduced-cost internet access at this link [Internet Access for Families](#).
- **My.sduhsd.net** Students should reacquaint themselves with the Student Start Page at [my.sduhsd.net](#). There are valuable digital resources here, including Enrichment Activities and links to commonly-used digital resources.

Digital Citizenship & Behavior Expectations

Online learning is new to our students, teachers and their families. SDUHSD values a safe, inclusive learning environment. While students are engaging with classmates and teachers in a digital space, they are still “in school.” Behavior expectations for being appropriate and respectful still apply. At the beginning of each school year, all students and parents & guardians agree to the [Student Acceptable Use Policy](#) which is governed by our [board policy on student use of technology](#). We encourage parents & guardians to discuss these important guidelines and internet safety with your students.

Final Spring Term Grades

Consistent with guidelines from the State of California and in consultation with other superintendents, district administrators, instructional leaders and post-secondary institutions, as well as considering the profound changes in student circumstances and shift to distance learning, we want to assure that no student is adversely impacted by school closure. SDUHSD will transition to final grades of credit/no credit for the spring term of 2019-20.

Multiple variables and resources influenced the decision about grading practices including:

- a primary focus on the health and welfare of all 13,300 district students
- current stressors on students and families and the impact on education of the continually changing health and safety conditions in the community
- student ability to maintain or improve grades and learning at the same level via distance learning format & in the current environment
- the inability to replicate a comprehensive school program with the time and limitations available and no clear way to grade all students in the traditional manner based on existing syllabi
- the variance in access and equity to all curriculum by all students
- length of school closure
- not penalizing any student in any class by implementing a consistent and equitable grading system for all grade levels and types of coursework

Consideration of post-high school plans were also included with input from military, NCAA, employers, and public and private colleges, including CA Community Colleges, CSU, UC and AICCU who have confirmed that moving to final credit/no credit will benefit our students and that applicants will not be adversely impacted by CR/NC in spring or summer of 2020. It has been consistently stated that students are always considered in the local context of their own school and system, not compared across schools or districts. Colleges throughout the country have made it clear that students will not be penalized for missing standardized tests, changes to coursework due to distance learning model or for posting credit/no credit to transcripts for this semester.

Please reference the [SDUHSD Distance Learning Credit/No Credit](#) document for further information.