



UNIVERSITY PREPARATION CHARTER SCHOOL AT CSU CHANNEL ISLANDS

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March 29, 2020

UPDATE ON DISTANCE LEARNING DURING CLOSURE

Dear UPCS Families,

On Monday, March 30 teachers will be launching the official UPCS distance learning program. We hope that your family found the enrichment activities posted by teachers and listed on our school website to be useful and productive. Over the last two weeks, teachers and administrators have worked endless hours to create a meaningful distance learning program to meet the needs of students and move learning forward. Also, over these last two weeks, we have checked out approximately 380 devices to families that needed technology. We have held two technology check-outs with open invitations to any family in need of a device. If your family missed these two events and your child still needs a device, please let your child's teacher know.

Distance Learning Program – Launching March 30

We will still be observing our Spring Break with no formal distance learning April 6-17. You are encouraged to participate in any and all Enrichment Opportunities during this time. Distance Learning will return after Spring Break on April 20th.

Preschool – Ms. Dara, Ms. Agnes, and Ms. Sandra are sending out activities for you to do at home with your child via Parent Square home/school communication emails and text messages.

Kinder – Eighth Grade:

- Teachers will send out, each day, via Parent Square, OR you can find on our website under “Distance Learning” a slide show for each grade. The slide show will take your child through a variety of lessons, activities, and assignments to perform over that day.
- Teachers will provide one “live” interactive session daily using Zoom. This will be a time for the students to connect with each other and with the teacher. Zoom logins will ONLY be sent through Parent Square and/or in the child's Google Classroom (2-8 grades). Please be sure to take note of the Zoom login code.
- Teachers are available via email and Parent Square for questions.
- We will also continue to add to our Enrichment Distance Learning page which can also be found on our website.

For families who **do NOT have internet at home:**

- Spectrum/Charter cable is offering a free 60 day subscription, call 1-844-488-8395
- If you have trouble accessing this please let us know ASAP, cevans@pleasantvalleysd.org

We realize that each family is different and that these unique circumstances have created unique challenges. With this in mind, we know that not all students will be able to engage in the “live” sessions and/or other online opportunities. Teachers have provided enough material to keep children of all abilities challenged, but you should differentiate your child's experience based on your child's and your family's needs. We don't expect every child to necessarily complete every assignment. Please make sure your teacher is aware of your family's situation, so we can best support you. We know that nothing can take the place of the high quality education your children would receive if they were able to come to school, but our goal is to provide some structure, some emotional connectedness, and opportunities to grow some new skills and practice those skills already learned. We also want you to give yourself a break, these are challenging times, and it is ok if your child can't participate in all the opportunities provided. We will all do our best to support learning, take a breath, and know that we are all in this together. We will all start back up, with real school, together knowing that we have some things that may need to be reviewed. UPCS is a strong community and we will be DOLPHIN STRONG! As you are aware, all Ventura County public schools are scheduled to be closed until Monday, May 4th. This could change based on recommendations as that time approaches. This situation remains extremely fluid, but we will continue to keep you in the loop via ParentSquare, Facebook, and our Website. We understand that school closures have significant impacts on our students and their families and we hope to resume normal operations as soon as possible.

Food Services for UPCS students during closure:

Please visit:

<http://vcoe.org/meals>

You can find a location close to where you live. Food is for ALL children under 18 years of age.

We do not make these decisions without enormous thought and input from county and state officials. We thank you for your understanding during this challenging time. The health and safety of our entire community is extremely important to us and while we know school closures create a strain on families we also understand the need to keep everyone safe. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Charmon E. Evans, Executive Director