



UNIVERSITY PREPARATION CHARTER SCHOOL AT CSU CHANNEL ISLANDS

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Dear UPCS Families,

We are happy to announce that all of our new and continuing families should now be connected to our Parent Square messaging system. Today we sent out an “invite” to all families who have not activated their Parent Square account. Please be sure to set up your parents square account and add the phone app if you would like.

This weekend families will receive an important Parent Square message regarding next school year. In this message you will be provided with a link to a family survey, which is due by Wednesday, August 5, 2020. Included in the survey will be information and questions regarding back to school schedules, family needs, and learning model program choices for when we are able to open physically.

As you are aware, all Ventura County schools are required to start the school year in full distance-learning. UPCS has created a program that takes into account the need to fluctuate between in person learning and full distance learning. We are conscious of the reality that even after we are able to physically reopen, the time may come that we are required to close again, due to COVID-19. Our hope is to provide as much consistency as possible for our students during this time of uncertainty.

While we are required to start the year in full distance learning, for all K-8 students, we are still preparing for the day we can physically reopen. Upon physical reopening, we will have two models of instruction available for students.

1. Hybrid - 2 days a week physically at school and 3 days a week learning virtually from home
2. All virtual/distance learning from home

The family survey will include important information for you to review as you make your decision, including sample schedules. We will also hold two parent Zoom sessions, where we will address family questions. We ask that you email your questions to Miss Evans at CEvans@PleasantValleySD.org. This ensure that we are able to address all of your questions in our presentation.

The family survey will also include questions for families that will assist the school in targeting important resources to families in need. We are currently working with a local non-profit to provide digital learning support and childcare for families that qualify, based on need. These spaces are limited and the survey questions will assist us in targeting this service appropriately.

August 17-21 families will be assigned a technology pick-up appointment, at which all students will be issued a school device, carrying case, and headphones to assist in online/digital learning.

We understand the challenging nature of our current reality for families and teachers, but our goals remain to create consistency, continuity, and community for our students. Our teachers await the arrival of students in their Zoom sessions and the opportunity to support them academically and emotionally. A reminder that your child will remain with their regular classroom teacher no matter what model your family chooses. This allows all of our children the ability to maintain those important peer relationships, program continuity, and looping with their teacher. This will also create seamless transitions between full distance learning and the hybrid model.

We have restructured the schedules, systems, and physical spaces to accommodate a physical reopening, when that becomes a reality: classrooms are being set up for appropriate physical distancing, “distancing dolphins” are being painted on the ground all around the school to remind students about physical distancing, and extra hand washing stations and hand sanitizer stations are being installed. This is a small sample of the safety measures we are implementing for the time we are able to physically reopen.

Thank you for your continued support as we navigate these challenging times together.

WE ARE DOLPHIN STRONG!

Charmon Evans, Executive Director

Darlene Hale, Director

Verónica Solórzano, Director

Rebecca Kruse, TOSA