



# UNIVERSITY PREPARATION CHARTER SCHOOL AT CSU CHANNEL ISLANDS

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July 5, 2020

Dear UPCS Families,

Thank you for filling out our digital learning survey. This survey provided us with good information as we continue to explore the options for the 20-21 school year. As we saw this last week, with the Governor's proclamation, this situation changes daily. In the last two weeks, we have received updated versions of the Ventura County Public Health guidance as well as guidance from Ventura County Office of Education. As this guidance stands, it leaves us with limited options for a physical return to campus. Over the next several weeks, our custodial team will be deep cleaning rooms and moving classroom furniture to accommodate physical distancing and safety requirements in the classrooms. We will also be using the guidelines to plan our days and schedules. Our planning team has met for several hours to disaggregate the survey data, research various models of instruction, and begin looking at tools to facilitate learning for the 20-21 school year. While we know there is no perfect solution for all families, we believe we have developed options that help all of our children to have the opportunity to stay with their regular teacher all year whether they choose to stay home to learn or attend school in the hybrid model. One of the things we know is whether the students choose the full online or the hybrid option, they will receive four (4) full days of school and Wednesdays will be considered our early release day.

There are a few things we can tell you for sure as of right now. We know there will be two options for students: (also see attached graphic)

- **FULLY ONLINE OPTION**

If you are not comfortable sending your child back to in-person school, families will be able to opt into our fully online option. In this option, children will tune in "live" via Zoom to their regular classroom teacher and have opportunities to attend direct instruction lessons and interact with the teacher and fellow classmates which are also at home and those that are at school. The advantage to this model of fully online is that our children can maintain their program with their actual teacher(s) and classmates. We felt this was very important for our community and provides students the access to many more "live" lesson opportunities and the ability to ask their classroom teacher for help. This will provide students great continuity for when we can all return to school.

- **HYBRID OPTION**

Due to safety requirements, we know we will not be able to have all students return to school every day. Class sizes have to be small to allow for physical distancing. This will mean that students will be at school 2 days a week and then learning from home 3 days a week. We understand that this will place a great burden on families, but schools are required to follow the guidelines, if we want to reopen.

- We will keep siblings at school on the same days

- On days when students are learning from home they will log-in “live” via Zoom to their actual teacher and be a part of lessons happening at school with the students who are attending for those days and with the students who are doing the fully online option. All the kids will be assigned to their regular teacher all the time and get to interact with their teacher and all of their classmates daily whether in-person or at home. This allows our students to build classroom community with their entire class, no matter what program a family opts into. When we are able to come back together fulltime, at school, all of our students will already know each other and will remain together as a class.
- If schools are required to go into full distance learning again, our students will all be prepared and will remain with their same teacher and same class, just in a fulltime online format.

We want to be sure families understand that no matter which option best fits your family, this will be real school, attendance will be required, grades will be given, and we will be following state standards and expectations.

The planning teams will continue to develop our instructional model and design a schoolwide plan to ensure a safe environment for students and staff using the guidelines. Ventura County Schools must adhere strictly to the guidance we have been given and submit our plans and assurances to Ventura County Office of Education and the Ventura County Public Health. We are confident that this situation will continue to be fluid over the summer and that it is impossible to determine exactly where things will be on August 19, our first day of school. With that in mind, we have decided to wait until near the end of July for your family to commit to the option that best meets your family’s needs. Please keep your eye out for a Parent Square message in late July with instructions and further details in selecting your fall learning option. You do not need to do anything at this time, but we thought that this information would help you as you begin thinking about the fall. Thank you for your continued support as we navigate this challenging situation together. DOLPHIN STRONG!

Sincerely,

*Your Administrative Team*

Miss Evans, Executive Director

Ms. Hale, Director

Sra. Solórzano, Director

Mrs. Kruse, TOSA