

AMADOR COUNTY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

**LEARNING CONTINUITY & ATTENDANCE PLAN
& PHASED SCHOOL REOPENING**

Presented by

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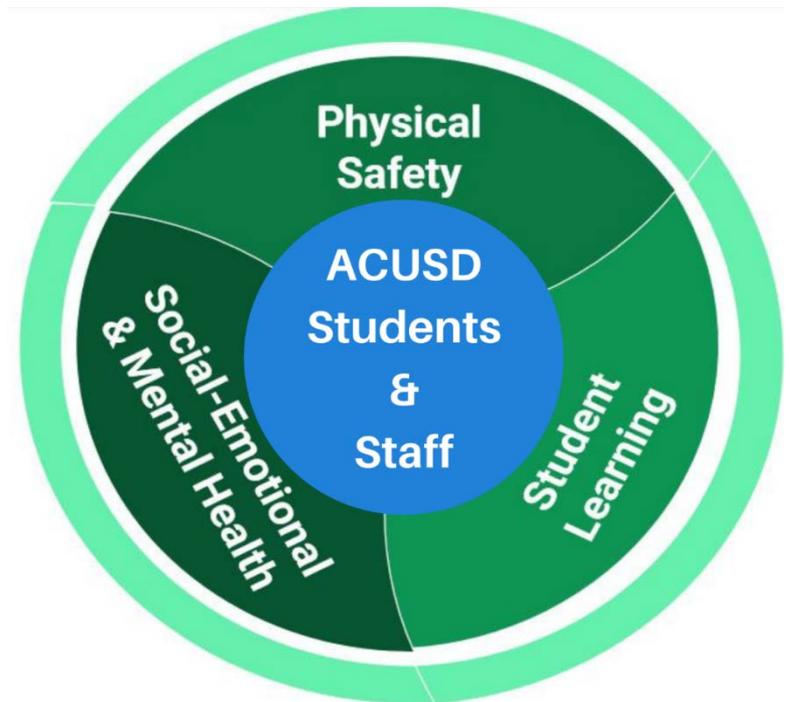
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Our Mission

*Enriched by the diversity and deep traditions of our unique community, Amador County Public Schools will prepare, support, and inspire each student to achieve career and college success in a rapidly evolving world through highly engaging teaching, rigorous learning and innovative pathways supported by strong partnerships in a **safe, caring, and collaborative environment**.*





Our Current Context

- Increased levels of collaboration with our labor partners is essential in this work. It has been positive and productive.
- School districts are in an unprecedented situation challenged simultaneously with a public health pandemic, wild fires and Public Safety Power Shutoff events.
- Public health guidance and government orders are constantly changing.
- Adaptability and flexibility continue to be essential to respond to these changing situations now and throughout the school year.



Our Current Context

Building three airplanes while they're in the air is time intensive work.

- Distance Learning in the Spring
- Distance Learning in August/September
- Hybrid Model of Learning
- Operational action steps
- Instructional action steps
- Regular communication
- Collaboration with many stakeholders
- Negotiations with labor partners



Our Current Context

Some of the Operational Challenges	Some of the Solutions
Meeting the 6 foot distancing requirement in classrooms, to the extent practicable	Staff measure each classroom and plan for physical distancing with 30-36% of students attending at a time.
Transporting students with the 6 foot requirement, to the extent practicable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limit number of students per bus. • Eliminate in-town routes and increase number of busses per route. • Ask parents who can to transport their children.
Noncompliance with CDPH guidelines, such as wearing masks and social distancing	Students will be excluded from in-person learning and assigned full-time distance learning.
At the secondary level, keeping cohorts of students together with no mixing, to the extent practicable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In order to keep the master schedule intact, secondary students change classes during passing periods following one-way signs. • Staff disinfect classrooms during passing periods, to the extent practicable.
Managing daily temperature checks with hundreds of students and staff on site at a time	Staff use touchless thermometers at all entry points to do temperature checks, to the extent practicable.
Implementing surveillance COVID-19 testing for students and staff	Administration work with Dr. Kerr to ensure school-based testing procedures are consistent with the CDPH guidelines.
Difficulty having enough substitute teachers and custodial staff	Human Resources continue recruiting, hiring and training substitute teachers and custodial staff.
Scheduling breakfast and lunch allowing enough time for disinfecting classrooms between cohorts	Provide grab & go meals. Students eat outside in good weather and in the gym/MPR in poor weather.
In the event a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19, there is a high likelihood for school closure at the secondary level due to mixing of cohorts.	The school will be temporarily closed and students will resume full-time Distance Learning.



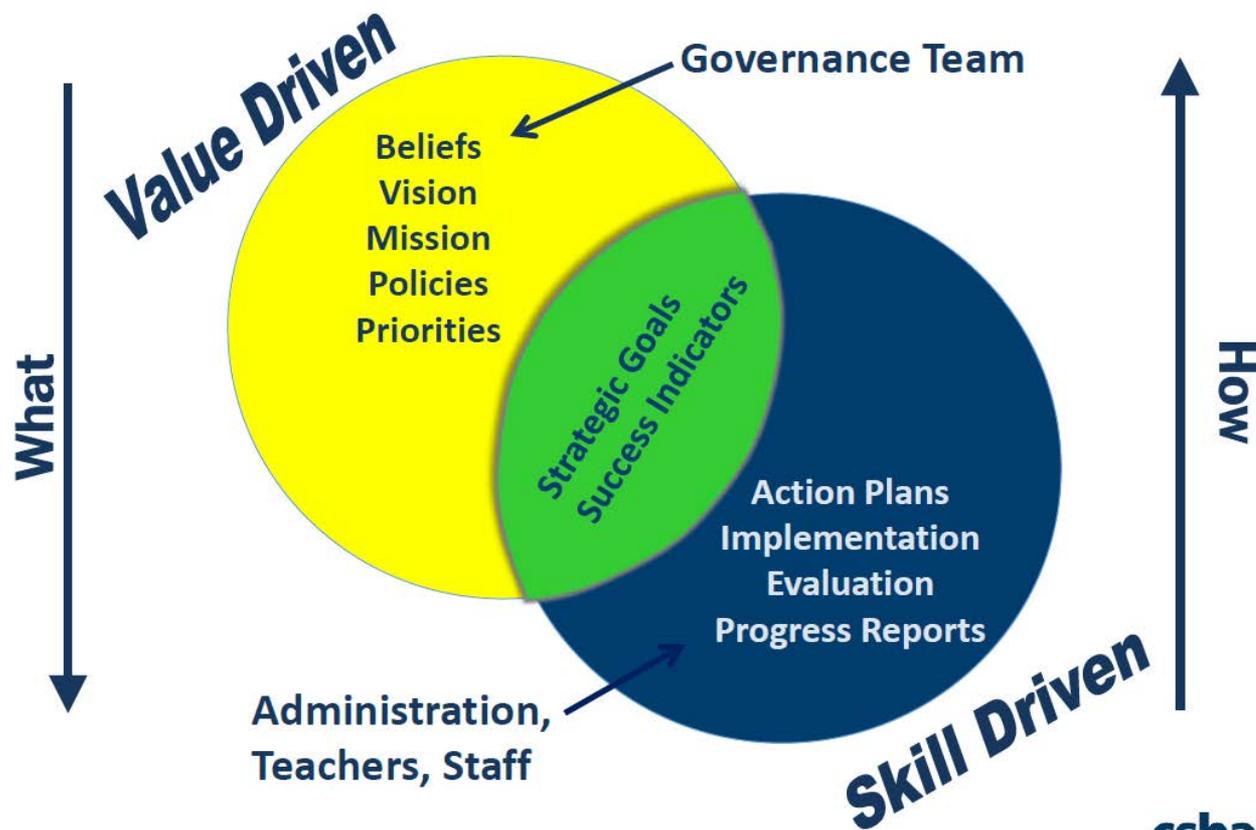
Our Current Context

Some of the Instructional Challenges	Some of the Solutions
<p>Elementary: Many students will have a teacher change due to staffing for two instructional models.</p>	<p>Ensure families and students have this understanding before making their learning model selection.</p>
<p>Secondary: Reduced instructional time students will receive with only one physical contact per week, per class, and other contacts virtual.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure meaningful, standards-aligned assignments in all classes. • More work can be accomplished with students in-person than virtually.
<p>Secondary: Keeping the master schedule intact so students stay on track to graduate.</p>	<p>(See above.)</p>
<p>Secondary: Offering a Distance Learning option with the Hybrid Model option without completely reconfiguring classes or requiring the hiring of many more teachers.</p>	<p>Offer Edgenuity courses for the Distance Learning option which does not require an ACUSD single subject credential teacher (pulling them from the current schedule)</p>
<p>Secondary: Course selections for Edgenuity are limited (such as electives and AP courses) and may affect students' career and college readiness.</p>	<p>Ensure families and students have this understanding before making their learning model selection.</p>
<p>High School: Keeping students on track to graduate in the event there is a mid-semester change in the learning model (i.e., pacing and course content coverage may be greatly affected).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement grading plan to support a mid-semester change. • Research awarding of partial credits in comprehensive school setting. • Recognize and accept that it will not be perfect.
<p>Secondary: Consider half-day in-person sessions, 2 days a week, allowing students to continue current bell schedule and align with elementary.</p>	<p>This is under consideration by secondary leaders and teachers.</p>



Our Current Context

Understanding Roles





Stakeholder Survey Data

Family Survey ~ September 11, 2020

- 2,620 respondents of 3,970 students (66%)
- 72.3% believe we can safely return to classrooms and will send their child to the physical school campus when allowed to do so.
- 27.7% think it is too soon and will continue their child in distance learning.
- 77.4% will be able to get their child to physical school if transportation by a bus is not feasible due to 6 foot distancing requirements.
- 22.6% will not be able to get their child to physical school if transportation by a bus is not feasible due to 6 foot distancing requirements.

Teacher Survey ~ September 14, 2020

- 163 respondents of 240 teachers (68%)
- 46.6% believe we can safely return to our school campuses for in-person instruction.
- 23.3% think it is too soon and we need to continue with distance learning.
- 30.1% support returning to the school campus only when it is allowable for all students and staff to return 100% with no restrictions.
- The higher level of concerns expressed by teachers were related to sanitizing and cleaning, ability to implement all of the procedures in the Health & Safety Plan, and classrooms sufficient to support 6 foot physical distancing.



Phased School Reopening

- **Stage 1: Distance Learning (DL) ... We are here.**
 - *For counties in the purple tier, this is the only option to open the school year.*
- **Stage 2: Limited Student Access (Based on 8/25/2020 CDPH Guidance)**
 - *DL continues for all students.*
 - *This may happen when a county is in the purple tier and other tiers.*
 - *Special Education students, English learners and students far below grade level will return for assessments, services, and instruction in small groups.*
 - *Information will be communicated to these families.*
- **Stage 3: Hybrid Learning**
 - *When allowable, pending Amador County Public Health Officer approval.*
 - *Must follow CDPH Guidance for Schools and School-Based Programs such as mandatory mask wearing and 6 foot distancing.*
 - *Details provided in the Learning Continuity Plan.*
- **Stage 4: Traditional Schedule with Restrictions**
 - *Five days a week on campus instruction.*
 - *Daily sanitizing and social distancing.*
 - *Limits on large gatherings, extracurricular activities and athletics.*
- **Stage 5: Traditional Schedule with No Restrictions**
 - *Five days a week on campus instruction.*
 - *Assemblies, extracurricular activities and athletics.*
 - *Daily health screenings may still be required.*



Preparing for Safe Return to Campuses

- Training and monitoring of ACUSD Health & Safety Plan During COVID19 for a Safe Return to School
- Implementing safety measures
 - *Air filters replaced 3-4 times a year*
 - *PPE purchased and deployed*
 - *Masks and social distancing used*
 - *Daily disinfecting/cleaning using backpack sprayers*
 - *Signage made and deployed*
 - *Plexiglas installed*
- Collaborative planning with principals, labor partners and others
- Negotiating with labor partners
- Transportation planning
- Communication with stakeholders and community



In-Person Learning: Targeted Support for Students

CDPH August 25, 2020 Guidance

- The California Department of Public Health released new guidance on “targeted, specialized support and services at school.”
- ACUSD desires to provide in-person support (academic, social-emotional, behavioral, etc.) as soon as possible for its most vulnerable students.
 - *English learners*
 - *Students with disabilities*
 - *Students far below grade level*
 - *Foster youth*
 - *Students struggling with significant social-emotional issues*
 - *Students who are chronically absent*
- CDPH guidance requires small cohorts of no more than 14 students and 2 adults that do not mix groups.
- ACUSD is collaborate with our labor partners to achieve this support for students, and will communicate with families.



In-Person Learning: Draft Hybrid Models

Elementary (TK-5/6)

- 4 half-days per week of in-person learning
- 4 half-days and 1 full day of distance learning
- Social distancing
- Mask wearing
- Disinfecting between cohorts, to the extent practicable

Secondary (6-12)

- 2 full days per week of in-person learning
- 3 full days of distance learning
- Social distancing
- Mask wearing
- Disinfecting between cohorts, to the extent practicable



Options for Families

Two Options for Families

As we plan for returning to school buildings for in-person learning in a hybrid model, families will need to decide which option works best for each student. In order to support Distance Learning and the Hybrid Model at the same time, classes will be reconfigured to allow for necessary staffing adjustments. As a result, **some students will be assigned new teachers**. Once the family selects an option, they will be committing to this for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year, unless the State Public Health Officer declares that we are able to return all students to school for in-person learning with no restrictions. Please take time to learn about each option and participate in the upcoming town hall meetings to ask questions. All students will be assigned to the Hybrid Model as the default with an option to opt in to Distance Learning through an enrollment form in mid-October.

Distance Learning Option	Hybrid Model
This option is the improved version of Distance Learning in place since August 2020 with some changes as we add the Hybrid Model.	This option allows students to attend school for in-person instruction part of the time.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Junior high and high school students will use the online Edgenuity platform and be assigned a new teacher.• Elementary students will likely be assigned a new teacher.• Attendance will be taken daily.• Students will interact virtually with the teacher and peers daily.• Instruction will be purposeful and standards-aligned.• Live instruction and other lessons may be recorded and available for viewing.• Work packets may include paper/pencil work, workbooks, online assignments, and/or other materials.• Teachers will continue to provide intervention, English Learner support, and Special Education support for identified students.• Meals will continue to be provided at the schools in drive-through fashion.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Elementary students will come to school four (4) days a week (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday) for three (3) hours each day (morning and afternoon cohorts).• The current plan is for secondary students to come to school for two (2) full days (Monday/Tuesday or Thursday/Friday).• Elementary students may be assigned a new teacher.• Students are given a combination of packets and online learning to complete during the times they are not at school for in-person instruction.• Cohort size will be determined in order to maintain the 6 foot social distancing requirement (roughly 12-14 students).• Daily health screenings (temperature checks) are required.• Masks must be worn.• Transportation will be limited to areas furthest from schools.• Attendance will be taken daily in-person and/or virtually for the cohort not in-person.• Teachers will continue to provide intervention, English Learner, and Special Education support for identified students.• Grab and go meals will be provided.• Staggered start and dismissal times may be arranged to maintain social distancing, do temperature checks, and avoid large numbers of people in an area at one time.• Family members and visitors will not be allowed on campus, but are encouraged to call the school office to make virtual appointments.



Recommended Timeline

- Offers in-person learning to all students and families within the current school year
- Most vulnerable and at-risk grades TK-12 students supported early in the timeline
- Youngest students who need developmentally appropriate support offered in-person learning next through the hybrid model
- Focuses on health and safety
- Focuses on social-emotional wellness
- Presents a united recommendation and support from Administration and our ACTA and SEAC labor partners
- Hybrid model and timeline supported by Amador County Public Health Officer Dr. Kerr



Recommended Timeline

By October 19, 2020

- Send information to families with detailed information about the hybrid model.
- Invite families to virtual town hall meetings to receive information and ask questions.
- Send “opt in” to distance learning information to families.
- Hire more custodial support using CARES Act funds.
- Examine site staffing to ensure each school has the necessary staff to support the hybrid model.
- Finalize transportation plans.
- Finish negotiating staffing and other working condition impacts of the hybrid model.
- Provide protocol for school teams to determine the needs of at-risk students and schedule for those student groups to return to campus.
- Provide principals list of required action steps to prepare for hybrid model at their school.
- Build grades 6-12 Edgenuity Team and make a plan for their collaboration time. This will support students who opt in for distance learning.
- Ensure all classrooms/schools will be cleaned as required and facilities are maintained properly.
- Continue athletic conditioning on site following CDC and CDPH guidelines.



Recommended Timeline

Week of October 19, 2020

- Determine staffing for Hybrid and Distance Learning.
- Reconfigure elementary classes and teachers for remainder of school year based on Hybrid and Distance Learning enrollment.
- Begin TK-12 small group support on campus for at-risk students.
- Begin small group grades 6-12 clubs and enrichment activities at the secondary school campuses to support social-emotional wellness and positive peer interactions.

October 19 - November 16, 2020

- Use Wednesdays for all teachers to plan and collaborate for Hybrid and Distance Learning instruction.
- Edgenuity Team works to prepare for Distance Learning at the secondary level.

November 16, 2020

- Grades TK-1 students return to school campuses in Hybrid model.

November 23, 2020

- Grades 2-3 students return to school campuses in Hybrid model.

November 30, 2020

- Grades 4-6 elementary students return to school campuses in Hybrid model.

January 4, 2021 (or possibly sooner if partial credits towards high school graduation are allowed by CDE)

- Grades 6-12 secondary students return to school campuses in Hybrid model.



Planning in a Dynamic Environment

- As public health, state and local government orders, and public health guidance are revised, these plans will be revised.
- Additional actions may be added or modified as necessary during implementation.
- Given the dynamic and unprecedented situation, no plan is final as the circumstances continue to evolve.
- If positive COVID-19 cases increase and the county moves back to the purple tier prior to implementation of the hybrid model, distance learning would be required to continue.



Next Steps

- Continue to plan for in-person small cohort and hybrid learning, including use of CARES Act funds.
- Continue to collaborate and negotiate with our labor partners.
- Continue to communicate updates to all stakeholders on returning to in-person learning.
- Continue to make improvements to Distance Learning.
- Continue to provide professional development and collaboration time to support In-person Learning and Distance Learning
- Continue to implement the Learning Continuity Plan making adjustments as needed.
- Continue to collaborate with Amador County Public Health Office.

Questions, Discussion & Action