

Board of Education

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Superintendent of Schools

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On Monday, April 13, AUSD Transitions from a Soft Launch to Full Implementation of an Unprecedented Distance Learning Program Brought on by the Coronavirus Pandemic.

AUSD defines distance learning as instruction in which the student and instructor are in different locations. Since April 1, when Riverside County Public Health Officer Dr. Kaiser closed all schoolhouses through at least June 1, 2020, AUSD officials have been building the capacity to deliver its distance learning program. Among the primary steps taken have been providing professional development for delivering instruction using online learning tools, [creating and making accessible material resources](#) for students, parents, and teachers for both web-based and non-web-based programs, ensuring instructional staff has the necessary resources to deliver remote instruction, and building a [Distance Learning Resource Center](#).

In a negotiated agreement with the Alvord Educator's Association, on Monday, April 13, all instructional staff will have an on-line presence. ClassDojo and Google Classroom are among the web-based tools utilized for on-line instruction. AUSD strives to connect with its students every day. Including counselors and other education specialist support providers who strive to provide students with non-instructional support, including connecting them and their families to valuable community resources. The district will continue to provide meal service to all students 18 years old and younger.

All distance learning programs are designed to meet the needs of the variety of students we serve, whose needs vary depending on a wide variety of factors ranging from learning style to a student's availability given the challenges that many families are facing during this crisis. Students may communicate with their teachers through on-line interaction, instructional television, video, telecourses, or other instruction that relies on computer or communications technology. In some cases, teachers connect with their students through printed materials that are safely picked up by parents at school sites during designated times.

AUSD has clearly communicated its distance learning program and grading policy through mass communications to its stakeholders. In addition, teachers have communicated their expectations directly to their students. A comprehensive [FAQ](#) related to distance learning, grading, and all matters related to school closure has been created and is constantly updated to reflect current guidance from State officials. AUSD students will receive traditional grades at the conclusion of the semester on May 28. However, AUSD will hold students harmless for their spring grades and the transition to distance learning. Students may not receive a grade lower than their grade on March 13, 2020 when schools closed. Students may engage in the distance learning program and increase their grades, however.

ABOUT US: [Alvord Unified School District](#) serves the westernmost portion of the city of Riverside, as well as parts of the city of Corona and an unincorporated area of Riverside County. We serve about 18,500 students in fourteen K-5 elementary schools, four 6-8 middle schools, three comprehensive 9-12 high schools, and two alternative education centers.

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