

Soledad Unified School District

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Randy Bangs
Superintendent

1261 Metz Rd., Soledad, CA 93960

August 9, 2021

Dear Independent Study Parent,

For those parents, whose students are enrolled in the Independent Study Program (ISP), the ISP is scheduled to begin on the first day of school, Wednesday, August 11, 2021. Parents will be notified of specific information about class meeting times, schedules, access to curriculum, meal program and other details. A parent town hall on the independent study program is scheduled for Tuesday, August 10, 6:00pm. Below is information on the ISP.

Independent Study instruction will be conducted online. Your child will be provided time for synchronous instruction will be as follows:

- TK/Kindergarten - 8th grade: a minimum of 45 minutes daily (30 minutes on Wednesdays) in small student cohorts (groups)
- 9th - 12th grade: a minimum of 45 minutes weekly in small student cohorts (groups)

“Synchronous instruction” means classroom-style instruction or designated small group or one-on-one instruction delivered in person, or in the form of internet or telephonic communications and involving live, two-way communication between the teacher and student. Synchronous instruction shall be provided by the teacher of record for that student.

“Asynchronous instruction” means students working independently without the teacher on assigned work.

Your child will be expected to work independently (asynchronously) without the assistance of the teacher for 20-30 hours weekly.

The ISP will operate as follows:

Elementary Students

Elementary students will be assigned to a teacher. The teacher will meet with small cohorts of students to provide synchronous instruction on a daily basis. Your student will be provided with instructional materials including textbooks and workbooks. Parents will be notified on specific details on how to pick instructional materials up from the designated school site.

TK-6th Grade - Daily synchronous instruction (45 minutes on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays; 30 minutes on Wednesdays) for all students throughout the school year.

TIMES	SYNCHRONOUS INSTRUCTION	INDEPENDENT STUDY (Asynchronous Instruction)
8:00-8:45am (M/T/TH/F) 8:00-8:30am (W)	Student Cohort 1 <= 11 students	Student Cohorts 2 & 3
8:45-8:50am (M/T/TH/F) 8:30-8:35am (W)	Break	

TIMES	SYNCHRONOUS INSTRUCTION	INDEPENDENT STUDY (Asynchronous Instruction)
8:50-9:35am (M/T/TH/F) 8:35-9:05am (W)	Student Cohort 2 <= 11 students	Student Cohorts 1 & 3
9:35-9:40am (M/T/TH/F) 9:05-9:10am (W)	Break	
9:40am-10:25pm (M/T/TH/F) 9:10-9:40am (W)	Student Cohort 3 <= 11 students	Student Cohorts 2 & 3
10:25am-12:15pm (M/T/TH/F) 9:40am-12:00pm (W)	Teacher Planning, Preparation & Grading	Student Cohorts 1, 2 & 3
12:15-12:55pm (M/T/TH/F) 12:00-12:40pm (W)	Lunch	
12:55-1:25pm (M/T/TH/F) 12:40-1:10 (W)	Student Intervention for ELs, Support for students with IEPs	Student Cohorts 1, 2 & 3
1:25-2:45pm (M/T/TH/F) 1:10-2:15pm	Planning, Preparation & Grading	Student Cohorts 1, 2 & 3
2:45-3:15pm (M/T/TH/F) 2:15-3:15pm (W)	Office Hours (M/T/TH/F) Collaboration (W)	Student Cohorts 1, 2 & 3

Middle School Students

Students register for the independent study program through their assigned counselor. Students will be enrolled in seven (7) courses. Teachers meet daily with students for synchronous instruction in small groups (cohorts). The middle school ISP will make use of the Acellus instructional program. Acellus is an online learning platform which meets state standards for instruction. Some elective courses may not be available in the ISP. Other elective courses may be taught using other online platforms.

7th-8th Grade - Daily synchronous instruction (45 minutes M/T/TH/F, 30 minutes W) for all students throughout the school year.

TIMES	SYNCHRONOUS INSTRUCTION	INDEPENDENT STUDY (Asynchronous Instruction)
8:00-8:45am (M/T/TH/F) 8:00-8:30am (W)	Student Cohort 1 <= 12 students	Student Cohorts 2 & 3
8:45-8:50am (M/T/TH/F) 8:30-8:35am (W)	Break	
8:50-9:35am (M/T/TH/F) 8:35-9:05am (W)	Student Cohort 2 <= 12 students	Student Cohorts 1 & 3
9:35-9:40am (M/T/TH/F) 9:05-9:10am (W)	Break	
9:40am-10:25pm (M/T/TH/F) 9:10-9:40am (W)	Student Cohort 3 <= 12 students	Student Cohorts 2 & 3

TIMES	SYNCHRONOUS INSTRUCTION	INDEPENDENT STUDY (Asynchronous Instruction)
10:25am-12:15pm (M/T/TH/F) 9:40am-12:00pm (W)	Planning, Preparation & Grading	Student Cohorts 1, 2 & 3
12:15-12:55pm (M/T/TH/F) 12:00-12:40pm (W)	Duty-Free Lunch	
12:55-1:25pm (M/T/TH/F) 12:40-1:10 (W)	Student Intervention for ELs, Support for students with IEPs	Student Cohorts 1, 2 & 3
1:25-2:45pm (M/T/TH/F) 1:10-2:15pm	Planning, Preparation & Grading	Student Cohorts 1, 2 & 3
2:45-3:15pm (M/T/TH/F) 2:15-3:15pm (W)	Office Hours (M/T/TH/F) Collaboration (W)	Student Cohorts 1, 2 & 3

High School Students

Students register for the independent study program through their assigned counselor. Students will be enrolled in seven (7) courses. Teachers meet weekly with students for synchronous instruction in small groups (cohorts). The high school ISP will make use of the Acellus instructional program. Acellus is an online learning platform which meets state standards for instruction, graduation requirements and UC A-G admission requirements. Some elective courses may not be available in the ISP. Other elective courses may be taught using other online platforms.

9th-12th Grade - at least weekly synchronous instruction for all students throughout the school year.

TIMES	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:00-8:45am (M/T/TH/F) 8:00-8:30am (W)	Synchronous Instruction ≤ 5 students Cohort 1	Synchronous Instruction ≤ 5 students Cohort 4	Synchronous Instruction ≤ 5 students Make-up	Synchronous Instruction ≤ 5 students Cohort 7	Synchronous Instruction ≤ 5 students Cohort 10
	All other cohorts - Independent Study (Asynchronous Instruction)				
8:45-8:50am (M/T/TH/F) 8:30-8:35am (W)	Break				
8:50-9:35am (M/T/TH/F) 8:35-9:05am (W)	Synchronous Instruction ≤ 5 students Cohort 2	Synchronous Instruction ≤ 5 students Cohort 5	Synchronous Instruction ≤ 5 students Make-up	Synchronous Instruction ≤ 5 students Cohort 8	Synchronous Instruction ≤ 5 students Cohort 11
	All other cohorts - Independent Study (Asynchronous Instruction)				
9:35-9:40am (M/T/TH/F) 9:05-9:10am (W)	Break				
9:40am-10:25pm (M/T/TH/F) 9:10-9:40am (W)	Synchronous Instruction ≤ 5 students Cohort 3	Synchronous Instruction ≤ 5 students Cohort 6	Synchronous Instruction ≤ 5 students Make-up	Synchronous Instruction ≤ 5 students Cohort 9	Synchronous Instruction ≤ 5 students Cohort 12

	All other cohorts - Independent Study (Asynchronous Instruction)
10:25am-12:15pm (M/T/TH/F) 9:40am-12:00pm (W)	Teachers: Planning, Preparation & Grading Students: Independent Study (Asynchronous Instruction)
12:15-12:55pm (M/T/TH/F) 12:00-12:40pm (W)	<u>Lunch</u>
12:55-1:25pm (M/T/TH/F) 12:40-1:10 (W)	Student Intervention for ELs, Support for students with IEPs
1:25- 2:45pm (M/T/TH/F) 1:10-2:15pm	Teachers: Planning, Preparation & Grading Students: Independent Study (Asynchronous Instruction)
2:45-3:15pm (M/T/TH/F) 2:15-3:15pm (W)	Office Hours

School of Enrollment

ISP students will not be required to come into the school site, except to pick up meals. ISP classes will be based at school sites according to grade levels.

Grade(s)	Teacher Location	Teacher
Kindergarten-1st	Jack Franscioni - room 2	Andre Firme
2nd-3rd	Jack Franscioni - room 17	Audrey Kay
3rd-4th	Rose Ferrero - room 14	Carrie Garduno
5th-6th	Frank Ledesma - room 28	Sung Shin
7th-8th	Main Street Middle - room C211	Micaela Morales
9th-12th	Pinnacles High - room 7	Adam Higgins
9th-12th	Pinnacles High - room 7	Sang Lee

Progress Monitoring and Reporting

Academic progress will be communicated to parent/guardian on a regular basis
Communication to parents/guardians will be by: email, text, educational platform messenger, phone call, mail, or home visit. Academic Support will be offered to meet educational goals.

Special Education

Enrollment of students who have an IEP may only be enrolled in the ISP after an IEP meeting has been held regarding the ISP.

Technology

Students participating in the ISP will be provided a device (Chromebook for grades TK-6th grade or iPad for grades 7th-12th). Students in the ISP will also be provided with a district-issued hot spot, upon request. Details on technology device pick up will be provided.

Meal Program

Your child will be offered school meals on a daily basis. You and/or your student will be able to pick up a school meal at any school site. The time for meal pick-up will be 12:30-1:00pm at the same locations as during the 2020-21 school year.

Re-Enrollment Into In-Person Instruction

Parents of students enrolled in the ISP have the right to request that their student be re-enrolled into in-person learning. The district must transfer the student to in-person instruction within five (5) days of the parent request for in-person instruction. The student will be re-enrolled into in-person instruction based upon class space availability and may not be returned to the student's home school or teacher.

Written Learning Agreements

Within 30 days of beginning independent study, the parent, student, principal and teacher will meet to sign a Written Learning Agreement. This meeting may be conducted virtually or in-person and signed with wet or electronic signatures.

If you have any questions regarding the ISP, you may contact the principal at the school to which your student is enrolled or the Soledad Unified School District office.

Sincerely

Randy Bangs

Randy Bangs
Superintendent