



JAMESTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Mrs. Contessa Pelfrey, Superintendent

Mr. David Croy, Principal

August 4, 2021

Jamestown School District

PARENT NOTIFICATION LETTER: Independent Study Program (AB 130)

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

On July 9th, the California Legislature approved legislation (AB 130) that addresses an independent study option with specific requirements. This notification provides information about this option. We encourage parents to work with the district to determine the best educational option for their child.

Independent Study Option (AB 130) For the 2021-2022 school year, schools are required to offer an Independent Study option to be made available to students whose health would be put at risk by in-person instruction, as determined by their parent or guardian.

For the 2021-22 school year, Jamestown School District will provide access to an Independent Study program. Parents who are interested in this option may request a conference prior to enrolling their student in Independent Study in order to make an informed decision and to ensure that it is appropriate for their child. Please contact the district office 209-984-4058, to set up an appointment to review the independent study guidelines below.

Students enrolled in the long-term Independent Study program will comply with the written agreement which will be put in place at the time of enrollment, and students must comply with the requirements of the program which include:

- Completion of assigned work
- Active participation in synchronous, asynchronous, and live instructional time as assigned
- Make satisfactory academic progress

Enrolling, Disenrolling & Re-Enrolling

Parents/guardians who have made the decision to enroll in Independent Study shall notify the school office and should pick up an Independent Study Master Agreement form and Written Learning Agreement. Upon completion of the agreements including signatures representing an understanding of the guidelines for participation, attendance and grading, the student will be placed in an Independent Study Program.

Parents/guardians who would like their child to return to in-person instruction at any time throughout the year, shall contact the school office to request disenrollment from the Independent Study program. The district will reenroll the student as quickly as possible, within no more than five instructional days.

Daily Live and Synchronous Instruction for Independent Study

Independent Study provides instruction based on the state-adopted content standards by certificated teachers. There are specific requirements for instructional time that may include both synchronous and asynchronous work. These expectations will also be outlined in the students' Written Learning Agreement, which must be signed prior to enrollment in an Independent Study program.

- "Live interaction" means interaction between the student and school staff, and may include peers. Live interaction is provided for the purpose of maintaining school connectedness. This interaction may take place in person or in the form of internet or telephonic communication.
- "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.

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| Kindergarten to grade 3 | Daily synchronous instruction for all students throughout the school year |
| Grades 4 to 8 | Both daily live interaction and at least weekly synchronous instruction for all students throughout the school year. |

Reengagement Requirements

Students are required to have regular daily attendance as recorded by live interaction and synchronous instruction. It is important that parents/guardians are able to attest that their child will be available and ready for instruction daily. Parents/guardians will be notified within one day of an absence or record of no participation. Students who do not attend or participate in instruction for two days out of a school week are in violation of the written agreement, and will receive a phone call and/or a home visit. Continued absences or lack of participation may result in a student/parent/teacher/administrator conference to review terms of the agreement, a School Attendance Review Team (SART) meeting, or a referral to the School Attendance Review Board (SARB).

Academic supports are available and may be required as part of the reengagement process. Supports include reading and/or math intervention during the school day, after-school PATHWAYS, or Saturday School. For English Learners, After-School ELD support is available from 2:50-3:30 PM, Tuesday-Friday. For individuals with exceptional needs, students/parents will be in contact with the child's special education case manager and any service providers for designated services and additional support, as well as to address any parent questions or concerns. For pupils in foster care, pupils experiencing homelessness, or pupils requiring mental health supports, our liaison, Justine Jordet is available, by calling 984-5217 ext. 3152 or Dan Harrison at JFRC at 984-4704 ext. 113 to connect students/families with available resources.

If you have any questions beyond the details listed above, please contact Contessa Pelfrey, Superintendent, cpelfrey@jespanthers.org or 209-984-4058 to ask about the process.

Sincerely,



Contessa Pelfrey