

San Lucas Union School District

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September 19, 2020

Dear Families,

Congratulations on completing the first 6 weeks of distance learning, amidst the COVID19 pandemic and 3 major wildfires in our county. We are aware that many of you have had to sacrifice job time and learn new technology and academic topics in order to assist your children in distance learning. We thank you for your support.

We would like to host a ZOOM to School Night on September 23 at 6:30pm to refresh everyone on school expectations during distance learning, as well as update you on changes that have occurred, based on government policy changes, since the parent meetings of August 4-5. The biggest changes involve attendance and in-person learning.

Attendance Some of you have noticed an increase in calls to you to check in on your students. The state has requested a tracking of not only attendance but level of student engagement. It is expected that every student participates in their online classes and turns in weekly work packets. This is the same as expecting students who come to school in person to participate in their lessons and do their work. As the students get older, their classrooms increase in academic rigor, which increases attendance and engagement expectations.

The following is expected for a student to be considered in attendance and engaged in their education:

Mrs. McClenaghan's Room: daily online meeting, weekly paper packet.

Ms. G's Room: morning email check in, daily online meeting, weekly paper packet Mrs. Ross' Room (currently with Ms. Olivera): morning email check in, TWO daily online meetings, weekly paperwork packet

Mr. Carvey's Room: morning question check in, TWO daily online meetings, weekly paper packet, and iReady participation

<u>In-person Learning</u> The office has received phone calls and questions from families about the small learning hubs. It is true that the state has released guidance in allowing students to come to school to work in small groups with their teachers. In collaboration with our Board of Trustees, the school administration and staff have identified K-5 students to work in groups of 4 students with 1 adult, based on their academic needs and their technology aptitude. We understand that there are many family schedules that would benefit from being able to take your child to school for a portion of the day; however, personal family schedules are not one of the deciding factors in who is selected for small learning hubs.

School Picture Day LifeTouch Photography will be at San Lucas School, in the multipurpose room, on Monday, October 5. They will be open from 8:15-3:00, with a 30 minute lunch break that will occur sometime between 11:30-12:30, depending on the photographer's schedule. Students will be asked to wait outside, and 6-feet away from others, until it is their turn to have their photo taken. Parents may accompany their student into the photo session, but must stay 6-feet away from the photographer. Due to COVID19, Lifetouch will only accept online orders. Every student's email will be registered with Lifetouch, and Lifetouch will send an email to the student to provide information on how to order photos online. There is no option to pay for photos with cash or a check. We hope you can use this extra time to make arrangements to ensure you can order your photos online with a credit card.

<u>Technology Reminder</u> Please use your technology responsibility, as promised when you signed the Acceptable Use of Technology form on the first day of school. We have already encountered a broken computer, several broken hot spots, and several hot spots with apparent misuse (remember -- the school can see all the websites you visit). Mrs. Pena is available to assist students with their laptops. She can install popup blockers, alarms, and bookmarks, all of which will assist your students in using their technology responsibly. Call today to schedule an appointment with Mrs. Pena.

Work Packet Reminder

Work packets -- both pick ups and drop offs -- occur on <u>Mondays</u>. Please come to the school on Mondays for the work packets and drop offs. This enables your student to maintain proper attendance and engagement tracking, as described above.

Lunch and breakfast meals These are served on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 11:45am-12:45pm. You may order lunch in one of two ways: permanent order, which means you signed a form that says you want to order lunch every day; or, daily ordering, which means you will call us by 8:30am on the days that you want to order lunch. If you are on the permanent lunch order list, an order is placed for you every day. Several students have signed up for the permanent lunch order, yet do not pick up their orders every day. This creates waste and costs the school money, while not benefitting anyone. We will be in touch with those families to switch you over to the daily ordering option.

On September 23, 2020, at 6:30pm, the school will host a Zoom to School Night. It begins with a Principal's Introduction, and is followed by each teacher providing a review of in-class expectations. A recording of these presentations will be posted on the school website.

Thank you,

Jessica Riley Superintendent/Principal San Lucas USD