



INNOVATION · CREATIVITY · LEADERSHIP

JESSICA LLOYD, PRINCIPAL

November 2, 2020

Dear AMS Families,

I hope this letter finds you well. I would like to applaud your efforts as parents / guardians in supporting your middle schooler during this unprecedented time of distance learning. Your encouragement is noticed and appreciated. I would also like to recognize and thank our amazing staff at AMS. I could not be more proud of the relentless effort it has taken from our AMS teachers and staff to provide our students with a quality digital learning experience. Thank you to the many families who have reached out to share your success stories.

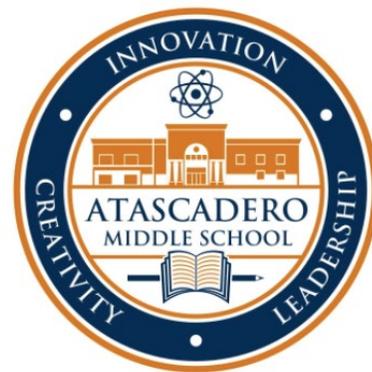
This letter is to follow up on the communication sent from Superintendent Butler yesterday afternoon regarding the “Educational Choice Registration” survey for grades 6-12. Starting on Tuesday, January 5, 2021, the District is giving families the opportunity to choose between three different educational plans for your middle school student(s). There will be a modified In-Person Hybrid Model, a Distance Learning model like our current schedule, or the option to attend Independent Study through ACE. Please read through the information below about the details of each option. We hope this helps you to make the best decision for your family at this time. You may also want to refer to AUSD’s [Plan for Reopening Schools in Response to COVID-19](#) posted on their website. **Please note, there is a possibility that your child’s schedule will be changed based on survey results.**

1) MODIFIED IN-PERSON INSTRUCTIONAL MODEL *(The following conditions and requirements apply)*

- **SCHEDULE:** Students continue using Google Classroom for all assignments
 - **Monday:** Online Distance Learning (at home all day) for Periods 1 - 7
 - **Tuesday - Thursday:** Two periods at AMS for 160 minutes during PM session
(11:55 AM - 2:45 PM)
 - **Friday:** One period at AMS for 80 minutes during PM session (11:55 AM - 1:15 PM)
 - ‘Office Hours’ may be pre-arranged with a teacher during the 1:25 PM - 2:45 PM period
 - **Independent Learning:** At-Home Independent Learning is still required
 - 160 minutes on Wed. / Thurs. / Fri.
 - 80 minutes on Tues.

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- **REQUIREMENTS per the “AUSD REOPENING PLAN”:**

- Masks must be worn at all times while on campus, including during class time
- Pickup and dropoff times must be strictly followed. Parents must remain in vehicles and use our loading / unloading lanes on West Mall or Lewis Ave.
- Gates will open a few minutes before 11:55 AM for in-person learning
- Physical distancing must be maintained at all times, including hallways, classrooms, and outside
- Students must exit campus immediately after class ends -- there is no congregating on sidewalks, parking lot, and/or communal spaces
- NO use of communal spaces (cafeteria, library, field, gym, locker room, weightroom, etc.)
- NO sharing of devices, supplies, objects, and/or materials
- No transportation will be provided except when transportation is written into an IEP
- Students are encouraged to bring personal water bottles as drinking fountains will not be available
- Students' health status must be checked by a parent prior to leaving home each day
- Students are required to use hand sanitizer and/or wash hands prior to leaving home
- Students must use hand sanitizer when entering and leaving classrooms
- Students seating will be arranged to minimize contact with others
- Restroom facilities, drinking fountains, door handles, and handrails will be cleaned once per day
- Students must strictly follow guidelines listed above for transition between first class and second class
- Parents and family members are not allowed on campus at this time
- NOTE: Students who return for In-Person instruction on the AMS campus agree to implicitly follow the rules and protocols in order to continue with In-Person instruction.



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2) AT-HOME DISTANCE LEARNING MODEL *(This is the current model and schedule we are following now)*

- **SCHEDULE:** Students continue using Google Classroom for all assignments
 - **Monday:** Online Distance Learning (at home all day) for Periods 1 - 7
 - **Tuesday - Thursday:** Two periods at home for 160 minutes during AM session
(7:45 AM - 10:35 AM)
 - **Friday:** One period at-home for 80 minutes during AM session (7:45 AM - 10:35 AM)
 - 'Office Hours' may be pre-arranged with a teacher during the 9:15 AM - 10:35 AM period
 - **Independent Learning:** At-Home Independent Learning is still required
 - 160 minutes on Wed. / Thurs. / Fri.
 - 80 minutes on Tues.

3) INDEPENDENT STUDY: Atascadero Choices in Education Academy (ACE)

- Families and students are supported by an Independent Study teacher who manages their progress in learning the curriculum
- Parents and guardians become the primary teacher and follow the curriculum provided by the Independent Study teacher
- Student work is assessed by the Independent Study teacher
- This involves transferring from Atascadero Middle School to the ACE Academy

In order to finalize AMS schedules, it is imperative that each family complete the survey by **Monday, November 9, at 12:00 PM**. If you have more than one student at AMS, be sure to fill out the survey for each student. As you decide the best option for your student(s), please note that this decision will remain for the duration of the 2020-2021 school year.

We understand that this is a difficult time for everyone and encourage you to make the choice that is best for your family. As always, thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Jessica Lloyd, AMS Principal