



## **PARENT NOTIFICATION LETTER: 2021-2022 Independent Study Program**

August 16, 2021

Dear CUSD Families,

We hope you are enjoying your summer break and we are very excited to welcome you all back on August 26<sup>th</sup>. As we prepare for a return to in-person learning, five full days a week, we wanted to share some changes enacted with the adoption of Assembly Bill (AB) 130.

For the 2021-2022 school year, state and federal laws require us to inform you of your option to enroll your student in an Independent Study program instead of 5 days a week in-person instruction. We 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 the parent or guardian. We understand that this isn't necessarily an easy decision to make. This letter will provide you with the information needed to request a conference/orientation and enroll in the CUSD independent study option.

One independent study program will be available for the 2021-2022 school year: *CUSD iAcademy*. Parents/guardians should be aware that this option is not the same as the distance learning (BRIDGE) option offered during the last school year. All parents/guardians also have the option to request a student-parent educator/administrator conference before independent study enrollment. Below is more detailed information about the iAcademy program for grades TK-5, grades 6-8 and grades 9-12.

### **CUSD iAcademy Instructional Time:**

Our Independent Study program aims to provide an alternative to 5 days a week in-person instruction to students whose parent(s) determine(s) their student's health may be at risk by attending class face-to-face. CUSD iAcademy independent study is an educational program that provides instruction consistent with the state-adopted content standards by certificated teachers. In addition, there are specific requirements for the instructional time that may include both synchronous and asynchronous work. These expectations are outlined in the students' written Master Agreement (contract), which must be signed before enrollment into the CUSD iAcademy independent study program.

- **Synchronous Instructional Time:** classroom-style instruction or designated small group or one-on-one instruction delivered in the form of internet or telephonic communications involving live, two-way communication between the teacher and student.
- **Asynchronous Work:** Assignments submitted/completed in Google Classroom, SeeSaw, or PowerSchool, for example. Families are responsible for supporting students to complete asynchronous work as a required part of the program. This parent expectation is part of the CUSD iAcademy Master Agreement (contract) that families sign.

### **CUSD iAcademy Program Descriptions:**

#### **Grades TK – 5 iAcademy**

- All curriculum is the same as other CUSD elementary schools
  - Benchmark Advance for ELA
  - Bridges for Mathematics
  - FOSS or Mystery Science for Science
  - Scott Foresman Social Studies for History-Social Science
  - Access to Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) virtual lessons
  - Access to Physical Education (PE) virtual lessons
  - Access to Social Emotional Learning (SEL) resources
- Instructional Program & Curriculum Delivery
  - Daily live interaction, synchronous instruction (students will zoom into the classroom – Concurrent Curriculum Delivery) and asynchronous learning (independent asynchronous assignments in Google Classroom or SeeSaw)
  - Concurrent Curriculum Delivery (CCD) daily for ELA and Math
  - Up to 120 minutes of CCD for ELA and Math synchronous instruction
  - Up to 150 minutes of asynchronous learning activities for ELA, Math, Science, Social Science, VAPA and PE
  - Individual and small group instruction will be provided and scheduled based on individual needs



- Support
  - Family support is key for independent study
  - Family should be prepared to monitor student's involvement, provide support and maintain consistent communication with the teacher
  - Access to campus counseling services as needed
  - If a student has an IEP the IEP team at the student's current school must convene to determine if Independent Study is an appropriate placement after a conference/orientation meeting. The IEP team will determine the delivery of special education services.
- Attendance
  - The assigned CUSD iAcademy teacher will take daily attendance to show participation
  - Participation means being on zoom daily
  - Participation and engagement means submitting work on Google Classroom or SeeSaw
- Steps to Enrollment
  - Complete Google Interest Form by Friday, August 20<sup>th</sup> using the following link:  
<https://forms.gle/ot3FZp3r5muUUxRP9>
  - Request and attend a conference/orientation meeting
  - Request and attend an IEP meeting (if applicable)
  - Sign CUSD iAcademy Master Agreement (contract) for independent study
  - Work with school site administration to finalize placement and daily learning schedule

### Grades 6 – 8 iAcademy

- All curriculum is the same as Coronado Middle School
  - Amplify for ELA
  - College Preparatory Mathematics for Mathematics
  - CA Elevate Science for Science
  - Discovery Education for History-Social Science
  - Virtual access to some Elective courses
  - Access to Physical Education (PE) virtual lessons
  - Access to Social Emotional Learning (SEL) resources
- Instructional Program & Curriculum Delivery
  - Daily live interaction, synchronous instruction (students will zoom into the classroom – Concurrent Curriculum Delivery) and asynchronous learning (independent asynchronous assignments in PowerSchool)
  - Concurrent Curriculum Delivery (CCD) daily for ELA and Math
  - Students will follow a specific daily schedule that mirrors an in-person schedule, zooming into each course throughout the specified school hours and periods
  - Individual and small group instruction will be provided and scheduled based on individual needs
- Support
  - Family support is key for independent study
  - Family should be prepared to student's involvement, provide support and maintain consistent communication with the teacher
  - Access to campus counseling services as needed
  - If a student has an IEP the IEP team at the student's current school must convene to determine if Independent Study is an appropriate placement after a conference/orientation meeting. The IEP team will determine the delivery of special education services.
- Attendance
  - The assigned CUSD iAcademy teachers will take daily attendance in each course to show participation
  - Participation means being on zoom daily
  - Participation and engagement means submitting work on PowerSchool
- Steps to Enrollment
  - Complete Google Interest Form by Friday, August 20<sup>th</sup> using the following link:  
<https://forms.gle/ot3FZp3r5muUUxRP9>
  - Request and attend a conference/orientation meeting



- o Request and attend an IEP meeting (if applicable)
- o Sign CUSD iAcademy Master Agreement (contract) for independent study
- o Work with school site administration to finalize placement and daily learning schedule

### Grades 9 - 12 iAcademy

- Course Curriculum
  - o Students will be enrolled in the BYU Independent Study program of study and will enroll in BYU online courses that align to the CHS course of study, including Advanced Placement courses, A-G courses, courses required for CHS graduation and electives as applicable.
- Instructional Program & Curriculum Delivery
  - o Students engage with the BYU online platform for their enrolled courses on a daily basis
  - o Weekly interaction with assigned BYU instructor to ensure course progress
- Support
  - o Family support is key for independent study
  - o Family should be prepared to student's involvement, provide support and maintain consistent communication with BYU and CHS
  - o Access to campus counseling services as needed
  - o If a student has an IEP the IEP team at the student's current school must convene to determine if Independent Study is an appropriate placement after a conference/orientation meeting. The IEP team will determine the delivery of special education services.
- Attendance
  - o Students are expected to participate on a daily basis in their assigned BYU courses
  - o Families will complete, sign and return a monthly Student Learning Log documenting daily engagement to a CHS assigned administrator for attendance reporting requirements
- Steps to Enrollment
  - o Complete Google Interest Form by Friday, August 20<sup>th</sup> using the following link:  
<https://forms.gle/ot3FZp3r5muUUxRP9>
  - o Request and attend a conference/orientation meeting
  - o Request and attend an IEP meeting (if applicable)
  - o Sign CUSD iAcademy Master Agreement (contract) for independent study
  - o Work with school site administration to finalize placement in the BYU independent study program

If you have any questions beyond the details listed above, please contact your child's school to ask about the process. As you make your decision about independent study, you may review the California Department of Public Health COVID-19 Public Health Guidance for K-12 Schools in California, 2021-2022 School Year: <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/K-12-Guidance-2021-22-School-Year.aspx>

Sincerely,

Dr. Megan Battle  
Senior Director of Learning