



**Elementary Reopening Schools (Zoom) Parent Meeting Q & A
August 19, 2020**

1. *Will parents be given leeway on when they attend classes, for those that work during the day?*

Parents do not need to attend classes. Meetings will be recorded so that if students cannot attend the meetings during the day, they can watch them in the evening.

2. *Will the preschool program be talked about for kids with early preschool on an IEP?*

We won't be talking about preschool in depth tonight. The special education department will be reaching out to parents individually.

3. *Are the schools prepared to offer more than ELA and math for the school year?*

The elementary schools will be focused on ELA and math. They will integrate social studies and science as appropriate. Students will also be engaged with specialists including technology, music, P.E. and library.

4. *Will students be doing SBAC testing this year?*

SBA is planned for this spring.

5. *How are they going to do School Pictures and Yearbooks this year during Continuous Learning 2.0?*

The schools will be sharing this information soon.

6. *We need more details behind how the IEP students will be handled. How will those students be supported and offered additional support if needed?*

We are working to support the needs of IEP students. In some cases we will bring them back to school on a limited basis. More information will be forthcoming.

7. *How do we check out a hot spot if we have unreliable internet?*

You will check out the hot spot from your child's school. More information about scheduling for this will be forthcoming.

8. *What about kids that do better with paper packets?*

We are hoping to minimize paper packets. For grades K and 1 there will be some paper supports such as Decodable Readers and supports in other portions of the reading program. There will also be mathematics workbooks.

9. *What time will attendance be taken? Will our kids need to be online in Google Meets all day?*

Attendance will be taken during Google meetings. If students don't participate, they will be marked absent. If students can't participate in the Google meetings, then when they submit assignments, email a teacher, or show that they engaged during the day, then the absence will be deleted.

10. *Is the plan to stay online for the whole school year? Or will there possibility be a transition to full time back into the classroom?*

We will monitor the metrics from the counties to determine when it is safe to open. We will stay in this model, phasing in small populations and then re-evaluate the current model before November 1. The metrics include the rates of transmission, the testing capacity, hospital capacity, the positive test rates. As the rates drop, the health district has indicated we can provide more face to face learning.

11. *There was mention of possibly trying to figure out something along the lines of childcare. Have you guys figured anything about that out yet?*

The District will not be providing daycare or have daycares in our facilities since we are phasing in different special populations of students. Daycares within the area recognize parents' needs for childcare. Daycares are invited to participate in training put on by the district on the learning platforms as are parents.

12. *Also will the kiddos who already have school Chromebooks be using the same ones or trading them in for different ones?*

Students will be able to keep the Chromebook that they already have.

13. *I watch a going to be 3rd grader as well as my own 5th grader. How do I keep this thing going for both of them and knowing that the two days a week that she is here is probably going to be the only online she will get?*

Google Meets will be recorded for viewing at other times of the day.

14. *Are google meets mandatory for children with working parents?*

Google meets will be recorded and students will be able to view them at other times of the day.

15. When students leave the district due to homeschooling or switching to other school systems, what happens to the per student funding? Where does it go and how is it used?

Funding follows the student when they leave the district.

16. At the end of our school year did you take into account all of the parent's feedback on the amount of homework that was given to our elementary kids? I felt that the State's required hours for elementary students was very unrealistic. I know for myself and my son we were doing more than the required amount. Hoping that the amount of schoolwork this year is achievable.

We did look very carefully at parent feedback and have made changes for this coming school year. We will continue to ask for feedback to see how parents and students are doing with the changes made.

17. Will the updated slides be sent out to everyone after this meeting? I see that they have changed from what was sent out earlier.

The updated slides have been posted.

18. When do we get to know what teachers our kids get?

This will take place this week.

19. Will there be classes teaching children how to use the chrome books my daughter is a kinder and has never used one.

Kindergarten students will be able to come into school twice a week. Learning about chromebooks will be part of what they are learning.

20. Is the expected time spent learning at home similar to the guidelines we were given last Spring? (ie. ~45 minutes for 1st, etc)

That is a guideline. We will be offering more time through google meets and specialist time.

21. Will the week at a glance be published prior to the week (i.e. Fridays)?

The week at a glance will be published on Thursday mornings.

22. Is it correct that our children will only have 1.5 hours with an educator/ teacher.....1.5 hours of lunch and recess, and 3.5 hours of independent time.....how is this equivalent to a normal day of education for our children?

Distance learning is not a traditional educational setting. The time online is more intense and students and families need the flexibility to address the independent time as they can.

23. If we progress to phase 3-4 is there a possibility that distance learning will no longer be offered?

It is a possibility, but will depend on a number of factors which will be closely monitored. Parents wishing to have their child continue in distance learning is one consideration.

24. What are the requirements for opening the schools to students full time?

The number of COVID cases per 100,000 per 14 days period and the health departments recommendations. We are monitoring the [Health District Dashboard](#) regularly to make sound decisions related to reopening.

25. If I originally signed my kinder kid up for in person learning, can I switch to the at home learning 2.0 model?

Yes

26. Will 504 Children be phased back into school?

We will be monitoring students' 504 plans and will phase students back as the health department recommendations direct the District to do.

27. What about PT?

Special services will be returned as is safe to do so and recommended by the health department.

28. Are shields okay.

Masks are the requirement. If your student is unable to wear a mask, please work with school staff to come up with a safe alternative.

29. Are in person kindergarten students attending half days or full days?

Students will be attending twice a week for 2.5 hours.

30. Will all students get a Chromebook even if they didn't have one last year?

Yes.

31. How is this school year going to be graded for K, 2nd and 3rd?

Grading will be based on the priority standards (the most important standards for the grade level).

32. How many kids per bus, how will they social distance on the school buses?

Transportation has created a video that demonstrates procedures and social distancing. This is available to view on the [website](#).

33. What about school supplies for distance learning students and in person kindergarteners?

Supply lists are available on each school's website under the "Family" tab.

34. Is there a list of off site tutors available in the community?

The district does not keep a list of tutors.

35. So for in person k will they still have to do virtual as well?

Yes~ More details will be provided soon.

36. What are family connections?

Family Connection meetings are required for K students and families in order to get students off to a good start. Parents have the opportunity to talk with the teacher about their child so that learning gets off on a very positive note.

37. What is the first day

September 3rd

38. Will students be required to attend the google meets during the designated times?

It is optimal for students to attend google meets at the scheduled time so they can interact with the teacher, but if they are unable to log in at the specific time, they will have access to recordings.

39. How will ELL parents receive information?

EL families will have access to translated parent materials and will be contacted by EL staff.

40. When in-school starts, there is a rumor going around that if your student shows symptoms that health officials can quarantine your student without your permission for up to 14 days. People are freaking out that their student could've taken from them without them knowing. This might be good to address this rumor to help with people's fear.

As with any illness, parents are immediately notified. The Health District will not take students.

41. Are we assuming we will be doing distance learning for the duration of the 20-21 school year?

We will be watching the COVID data and following the recommendations of the health department. We are hopeful that we are all back in school at some point during the year.

42. You say transportation will be provided for in-person kindergarten; will this only be to those within the school boundaries? What about those who are in childcare? For example, if a child attends Twin City, but their childcare is in Stanwood Elementary boundaries.

Transportation will be provided. Logistics of a schedule are being worked out.

43. If we aren't able to come those two days to pick up the supplies, will there be another time available?

Yes. Please contact your child(ren)'s school to make other arrangements.

44. Immunizations: could you define "medically verified?"

All immunization records turned in to schools or child care centers are required by state law to be medically verified. A medically verified Certificate of Immunization Status (CIS) form is a:

CIS printed by a health care provider or school from the Washington State Immunization Information System. This is medically verified by the Immunization Information System.

CIS printed from MyIR which is a free Department of Health online tool that allows families to view and print their official immunization records themselves. This is medically verified by the Immunization Information System. Go to <https://wa.myr.net/register> to begin the sign-up process.

Hardcopy CIS (2020-2021) completed by hand. Find the CIS form by visiting <https://www.doh.wa.gov/SCCI> and clicking on "Certificate of Immunization Status."

Must be verified with a health care provider signature. OR, Must have medical vaccination records attached so it can be verified for accuracy by school or child care staff

45. If we requested a teacher for our student is that still being used for placement?

Please contact your child(ren)'s school's principal regarding placement.

46. Can we be assigned to a group of 5 kindergarten kids that families follow safety protocols in their everyday life?

We know that in this pandemic, all families are following safety protocols. We will be scheduling by alphabetical order in order to keep families together.

47. What is the main source of communication that I can go to find out information regarding school and my child individually? Clever? Email?>

Your school's website and the District website's [Family Communications](#) page.

48. Some of us parents are still working full days and all week. Will our students have some extra time to turn in work, since students might not be able to work on their work until Parents get home from work?

Flexibility is built into all of our plans.

49. If a hotspot does not work for a 1st grader, what is the plan for them?

Please communicate with your school to problem solve this.

50. Are you going to be going off Island County health department numbers jointly with Snohomish County, or is it just the Snohomish County health department you are basing return to school numbers on?

We will be tracking both sets of numbers. We have students who live in Snohomish County and attend school at Utsalady or Elger Bay Elementary Schools. We also have staff who live in town who commute to the Island to work. Guidance has been that we adhere to the most stringent safety consideration.

51. There may be days we have to skip, can we use the template to help make up those learning activities?

Yes.

52. Will ALL grade levels and ALL schools be doing the same assignments, schemas for the week?

No, just as we do in person, our lessons are based on that class' current understanding. The individual teacher will speed up or slow down as needed, however we are all teaching toward the same Enduring Concepts and we are working on district-wide assessments to ensure that we are holding all students and teachers accountable for the same information across the district.

53. It was mentioned that Google Meets will be recorded and can be accessed by students at a later time if parents simply cannot get the child on every Google Meet... is there an expectation that a certain percentage be attended LIVE or something along those lines?

We understand that all families are working around a family schedule. This is the purpose for recording Google Meets. Though we hope students will be able to attend some live Meets so that they can connect with their classmates and teacher, it is understandable and acceptable that they watch some of these meets at a later time that is more convenient for the family and child.

54. What is the learning justification for the split time blocks? This is going to destroy family time by disrupting our ability to balance work and learning and other daily tasks.

Developmentally, it is better to divide learning into smaller chunks of time so that students can practice what they have been taught. If this schedule doesn't work for families, they can elect to watch the recorded class lesson either in the morning, afternoon or evening.

55. Why aren't teachers going to be available m-f 9-3:30

Teachers will be working from 8:30-3:30 (of 7:10-2:40 at secondary). You may always reach out to your child(ren)'s teacher via email or call the school office.

56. What if my child's teacher is sick, has an appt. etc. Will there be a substitute for the google meet or will they be cancelled that day?

We have been training substitute teachers so that learning can continue.

57. Do kids have to be logged in for all those hours if they are able to complete the work in less time?

No. Students only need to be logged in for the amount of time it takes him/her to complete the work.

58. Will services such as Speech be available during Continuous Learning 2.0?

Yes. Please reach out to your child(ren)'s case manager for specifics.

59. Will attendance be taken in all scheduled video chats?

Yes.

60. Seeing this Sample Schedule - it appears there's an expectation that students are on their computer 9-3:30 with a couple short breaks. That is a LONG time to be on a computer (very different than being in-person for school)... can the "independent work time" be home-based working on assignments more so than signed in to their Seesaw platform?

The time it will take individual students to complete their independent activities will vary from student to student. It is important that your child takes breaks and we will also be assigning tasks away from the computer which is one of the reasons why we are sending home hands-on supplies. If you are concerned that the independent activities are taking too long and your child is exhibiting frustration, please reach out to your child's homeroom teacher.

61. Are these times confirmed for the Google Meets for each grade? For parents that are also working from home, we need to know this so that we can plan with our employers in advance.

Yes, these Google Meet times are confirmed across the district.

62. Is attending the specialist portion required?

If a student is unable to attend the live meet with his/her specialist, he/she can access this learning via the link provided later in their learning platforms. All Google Meets will be recorded for absent students to view at a time that works for each child.

63. Can the weekly schedules also be emailed? That way us parents with multiple children can have it printed on a cork board?

Weekly schedules may be printed from each of the learning platforms. The schedules are found in the announcement sections of both Seesaw and Google Classroom.

64. Will the schedules that the teachers provide on the learning platforms be available prior to the first day of school?

Yes. The teachers will be posting schedules in the learning platforms (Seesaw and Google Classroom). These schedules can be found in the announcement section of the learning platform.

65. Are there going to be smaller group opportunities within the class? or just the full class google meets? Previous google meets only ended up providing < 1 min of time for each kid to say something - not much time for interaction with their peers and/or teacher. Looking to see what other opportunities there are (single child at home that needs more time with other friends and loves the social interaction at school with her friends and her teacher)

Small group times will be dependent on teachers and the make-up of each class. Students in all grades will be formatively assessed to ensure that we are meeting the needs of all students. All students receiving support for an IEP or Title I/LAP will be supported through small groups.

66. How are daycares and or working parents supposed to make this happen?

The YMCA offers a childcare program. Here is a link to [Island County Human Resources](#) regarding childcare assistance for families who qualify.

67. If a child will still have to attend daycare M-F all day while parents have to work, how would the continuous learning at home work with the kinder daily schedule and google meets?

Students can access their Google Meet and learning platforms at daycare if appropriate (check with your childcare provider). If not, they will be able to access their Meets and their independent activities later in the day at a time that will work for them.

68. Based on last year's district communicated OSPI maximum educational time frames based on grade, how is this schedule reconciling with those educational time standards and expectations?

Our schedule meets the instructional hours and day requirements. Learning standards have been identified across grade levels and/or content areas to ensure instructional time is met.

69. What's the plan for those families like myself, single working parent home, this limits our abilities to fully engage in this. it puts it all on childcare who may or may not be having multiple children's "school" schedules to keep up with or it's our couple hours together in the eve.

One of the reasons why we are coordinating our Google Meet times across the district is to accommodate students in daycare situations with children from other schools. All materials will be accessible online to accommodate students that are not able to attend an in-person Google Meet.

70. How much hands-on learning materials will be available to students, rather than entirely screen-based learning? It is important to me that my kindergartener and 2nd graders physically write and draw, etc. I plan on doing this on our own, of course.

The benefit of having our kindergartners in person is that we can send home some of these much needed hands-on activities. While students are at school, they will also be receiving instruction that is kindergarten appropriate with an abundance of hands-on experiences. Online kindergarten students will be receiving some hands-on supplies for them to use from home as well to support their fine motor development.

71. When will Saratoga start and when can we expect communication similar to this K-5 information from the district for this learning platform?

Informational webinar will be held August 25, 2020, at 6:00 PM and it is posted on the [Saratoga School](#) website.

72. Please explain why Kindergarteners can attend in school instruction and all other grades cannot.

School districts are allowed to provide limited in-person learning in small groups of students for the highest need students, such as younger learners, students with disabilities, students living homeless and those farthest from educational justice. (Per [Decision Tree Snohomish County Health District](#) and OSPI)

73. What is the plan for when students within a single cohort/classroom start to demonstrate disparate skill levels in a subject (math/ELA)? i.e. if some kids get significantly behind or ahead on assessment, how will the pre-recorded instruction be tailored to help them?

Whether the teacher records his/her live meet or pre-records lessons, each day's lesson will be planned based on current students' understandings. We understand that varied student needs will exist as always and will be accommodating students through differentiated instruction as needed.

74. When will parents be notified of assigned days?

Individual schools will be communicating with kindergarten families as soon as we get class lists confirmed. We had late staffing decisions in the area of kindergarten and so some classes are just now being formed. All schools are holding a kindergarten parent information night.

75. What are we going to be doing for the last year kindergartens that are now 1st grade and not up to speed? Are they being looked at for coming into school as soon as possible. Parents can't be expected to bring them up to speed.

These incoming first graders are at the forefront of our minds. We will be assessing all students at the start of the school year to assess current understanding and to identify specific needs. Our Title /LAP programs will be focusing primarily on kindergarten and first grade this year to accommodate these needs.

76. Will kindergarten students be with a teacher and a para educator equal amounts of time? Will the para educators have classroom management training?

Our kindergartners will be with both the classroom teacher for direct instruction and with the paraeducator to learn how to use their Chromebooks and will also be taught how to access their Seesaw platform. Our paraeducators that are working with our kindergartners are some of our most senior classified employees. They have had a significant amount of training throughout the years, but more specifically, in the spring and summer.

77. Is the clever badge from last year still good?

Yes, it is, though a new Clever login badge will be sent home with all K-1 students (to be included in their pick-up supplies). Login information will also be sent home for all students in grades K-5 for both Seesaw and Google Classroom.

78. Can you request AA or BB schedule for Kindergartners?

Parents should reach out to their principals to discuss their needs.

79. Are library books available?

Not right now. This may change in the hybrid model.

80. To clarify--if we have an incoming kindergartener and have already turned in our immunization records, do we need to resubmit a *medically verified* version?

If not from a medical professional, please consult with the school nurse to determine if what was submitted was acceptable without the medical verification.