




Hirsch Academy Distance Learning with Support & Onsite Hybrid Learning Plans School Year 2020-2021

As a reaction to Governor Ducey's July 23rd Executive Order 2020-51 requiring school districts to offer free on-site support services for students who need a safe place to go during the school day, including those with targeted services for Special Education needs and English Language support, we opened our Internet Cafe and began teacher Office Hours in addition to our Distance Learning programming. These services began on Hirsch Academy's campus on Monday, August 10th which is the 1st day of the 20-21 School Year.

Hirsch Academy's 'Distance Learning with Support' model provided each enrolled student with a Chromebook and their weekly distance learning folders in addition to weekly digital playlists that feature Compass Learning, Prodigy and RazKids. Additionally teachers are presenting live lessons through Zoom, or prerecorded lessons on Youtube and linked to their Google Classroom and ClassTag. During the 'Distance Learning with Support' model, Hirsch Academy's office is open daily from 8:00 am-4:00 pm, and we offer our staff monitored and socially distanced Internet Cafe with access to our Chromebooks and free WiFi from 8:30-2:30.

No special area (Art, STEM, PE) classes will be offered during distance learning. Special Education Services are available each Monday & Thursday from 8:00 am-3:00pm. ELL services are available Monday through Friday from 10:00 am-12:00 pm and by appointment. All classroom teachers are on campus to meet with students to provide small group support on Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays from 10:00am-12:00pm. Bus service is available on Mondays only during this model.

September 8th 2020, Hirsch will move into our Hirsch Hybrid Model. This hybrid is supported by The Arizona Department of Health Services based on the metrics in our zip code maintaining a 'yellow status' for 2 or more consecutive weeks. **The Hybrid Model is as follows:**

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Group A	School	Remote	School	Remote	Remote
Group B	Remote	School	Remote	School	Remote

Group A: Monday and Wednesday

Group B: Tuesday and Thursday

Friday: Teacher Prep, staff meetings & 1:1/small group by appointment

In this hybrid model all of the enrolled students will be able to attend school with direct teacher-led instruction twice a week, but only half on M/W and the other half on T/TH allowing for no more than 10 students in a class at a time for social distancing. Special Education services and English Language Learner services will be available daily during this model. Students will continue to be assigned digital learning and other online content as well as their academic Distance Learning folders for the 3 days of the week that they are still 'distance learning'. Recorded lessons or Zoom lessons and Google Classroom will still be included to support students. Teachers will also offer 1:1, small group or other support services on Fridays by appointment.

Attendance on the 2 days of in-person instruction will be mandatory unless the family has requested to continue distance learning until the end of the 1st quarter. In that case, paper attendance will be taken weekly with their distance learning packet. Distance learning is an option for any family that has a specific concern and is uncomfortable returning to any onsite learning opportunities. This year administration will allow a special circumstance exception due to COVID-19. Families that request this will still have new content and meetings with their teacher weekly. Homebound Instruction will be available if a student has a specific diagnosis that requires it.

Two of our three special areas, Art & STEM will offer 30 minutes to each class daily. Students in STEM will each have their own table and assigned seat, PE will meet outside and be socially distanced. Breakfast and lunch will be served in the classroom to avoid large gatherings in the cafeteria. All recess breaks will be scheduled to allow only one class at a time on each of the playgrounds and schoolwide safety and sanitation procedures will be followed by all.

The Hirsch Academy Internet Cafe will remain open Monday-Friday for students who need a safe place with adult supervision and wifi to complete their distance learning assignments. Students in the cafe will also have opportunities for small groups and 1:1 academic instruction by our reading interventionist and trained paraprofessionals. Priority will be given to children of essential workers and those without WiFi or adult supervision during the day. We will not exceed 25 students at a time in the Internet Cafe to allow social distancing. If there is a need for more space, we have an alternate space that can be utilized as an overflow space.

This plan was created after collecting surveys from both staff and families. We have had 100% of our staff support our hybrid model and less than 10% of our families opt for continued distance learning. We held several parent meetings in August to communicate our reopening phased plans. We then communicated with surveys through email, text, ClassTag, Google Classroom, our Facebook and paper copies as well as over the phone.

We communicated our transition from Distance Learning with Support to our Hirsch Hybrid to every family directly from their classroom teacher.

For any questions or concerns please contact us at 480-488-9362 and ask to speak to our Office Manager, Nancy Montes, or our School Director, Gina DiSipio.

Gina DiSipio
Hirsch Academy School Director

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