

VPS families:

We are excited to announce that the California Department of Public Health has granted our request to open for on-campus instruction.

So, we can now move forward with our original plan of offering two options for families: On-campus Learning & Distance Learning.

Everything will stay the same through Thursday August 27 (i.e. Distance Learning will continue for PK-8th and On-campus Learning will continue for PS-PK-K). The school will then close on Friday August 28 and Monday August 31 (no Distance Learning for PK-8th and no on-campus classes for PS-PK-K). Students will be given assignments to complete independently. The teachers will use these two days to prepare their classrooms; receive training in our safety protocols; and set-up the technology that will allow us to "broadcast" classroom lessons to students who remain at-home. We will then re-open on Tuesday September 1 for on-campus learners only (with a Noon dismissal). Distance Learning will restart on Wednesday September 2 (also a Noon dismissal). Please see the schedule below.

We understand that some families remain reluctant to send their children back to campus. However, we strongly encourage everyone to give serious consideration to sending your child(ren) to campus beginning September 1. We are a small school with clear & effective safety protocols (approved by the Department of Public Health and in accordance with CDC guidelines) which we have already been using with our Preschool-PreKindergarten-Kindergarten on-campus learners.

However, for those families who still prefer to keep their children at-home, Distance Learning remains available as an alternative to on-campus instruction. However, it's important to note that the *Distance Learning Alternative Program* (DLAP) is not the same as the Distance Learning we have been providing for the past few weeks, as well as last Spring. In short, a camera/microphone in each classroom will allow the teachers to broadcast their classroom lessons in real-time to the at-home learners. Through Zoom, the at-home learners then become part of the classroom. While the teachers will do their best to keep the at-home students engaged, it is not an equal substitute for on-campus learning. Undoubtedly, some of you are asking "will the tuition rate be different for DLAP student?" Regrettably, the school is not in a financial position to offer a lower-rate. However, we do have Tuition Assistance funds still available for allocation ... and we encourage families to apply.

Finally, we understand how difficult this "school decision" is for families across our country. Sadly, the current political climate isn't making that decision any easier or less confusing. But please know that Valley Prep would not be re-opening our campus if we did not feel we could do it safely. Nothing is more important than the safety of the children!

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

John Black, Head of School

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UPCOMING SCHEDULE**Friday August 28:**

- School closed (no On-campus or Distance Learning classes)

Monday August 31

- School closed (no On-campus or Distance Learning classes)

Tuesday September 1:

- **On-campus** instruction begins. All grade-levels will dismiss at Noon.
- Afterschool Daycare will be available for PS-PK-K only.
- There will be no morning classes for **Distance Learners** in 1-8th grade
- **Distance Learners** in 1-8th will Zoom with their teachers briefly at 1pm to test the classroom cameras and microphones (zoom-links will be provided)
- PK-K Distance Learners will follow their regular schedule with Mrs. White

Wednesday September 2:

- **On-campus** instruction continues.
- **Distance Learning** resumes for 1-8th grade (new class schedules will be provided)
- **Distance Learners** (1-8th) will not have Specialist classes
- All grade-levels will dismiss at Noon.
- Afterschool Daycare will be available for PS-PK-K only
- PK-K Distance Learners will follow their regular schedule with Mrs. White

Thursday & Friday September 3-4:

- **On-campus** learners will have a full-day of instruction with 3pm dismissal
- Afterschool Daycare will be available for PS-PK-K only
- **Distance Learners** (1-8th) will not have Specialist classes
- PK-K Distance Learners will follow their regular schedule with Mrs. White

Monday September 7:

- No school (Labor Day)

Tuesday September 8:

- Specialist classes begin for Distance Learners
- AM/PM Daycare begins
- Flag ceremony @ 8am (parents are welcomes to attend. face-covering are requires)