20/21 School Year Frequently Asked Questions

Comprehensive Distance Learning (CDL)

- **When will school start?** The first day of school for students will be Tuesday, September 8.
- **Do we need to do something special to enroll in CDL?** No, just follow the regular registration process and indicate your choice.
- **How will CDL be more robust than remote learning in the spring?** Participation will be mandatory in the fall. Student attendance will be taken, students will have a predictable schedule and grades will be given.
- **Will attendance be required?** Yes. Attendance will be taken daily.
- **What if my student needs to miss a day of instruction?** Please contact the school's front office staff to let them know. They will share the information with your child's teacher so that they can help with making up for missed instruction.
- **What will an average day of CDL look like?** Each day will include teacher-facilitated learning and applied learning. Teacher-facilitated means live, virtual instruction learning that is planned and guided by a licensed teacher. During applied learning students are taking the concepts from the teacher-facilitated learning and putting them into practice. Students have access to their teacher and peers as needed.
- **So how will Teacher-Facilitated Learning (Synchronous) & Learning Guided by the Teacher (Asynchronous) work together?** During teacher-facilitated instruction, a teacher may introduce a new concept to the class. Students may break into small groups to work together, with teacher support. During applied learning, students may have an independent project or assignment that allows the teacher to assess student learning.
- **Will CDL be the same from school to school?** Yes. Teachers will be designing their learning tasks using adopted learning targets and instructional curriculum and materials. Some variation from class to class is expected as teachers have discretion in using support materials and assigning day-to-day tasks.
- **Will teachers have office hours for students learning from home?** Yes. There will be scheduled opportunities for students and parents to meet directly with the teacher to ask questions and receive support.
- **Will students be provided Chromebooks?** Yes. All students enrolled in HSD will be issued district owned Chromebooks. You can check out a Chromebook and pick-up instructional materials at your student's school on Aug. 31st - Sept. 4th.
- **Will CDL be offered for the entire year?** It is our hope to get students back into our schools for live instruction as soon as we can safely do so. Decisions on whether to continue with CDL will be made after reviewing health metrics from the state and receiving guidance from our local health department.
- **How will I know what exact times my student will need to be online with their teacher(s)?** You will be contacted by your school and/or teachers with updated information before the start of school. Please plan on the morning time for full online participation and some teacher interaction as well in the afternoons.
- **Will my student need to participate in the morning teacher-facilitated instruction time each day**? Yes, your student's participation is required and their attendance will be marked during this time.
- **How will I know all of the links, usernames, and passwords that we need to know for CDL instruction?** Your school or your teacher will be contacting you through your school email before the school year begins. If you do not know your school email address or password please contact our district office.
- **I signed up for Hermiston Online!, but now I've changed my mind. What should I do?** If you signed up for Hermiston Online, but would like to change to Comprehensive Distance Learning you can send an email to hermistononline@hermiston.org
- **How do I know I have registered my student?** Once you have completed your registration with the Hermiston School District and entered your email address, you should have received a confirmation email letting you know your child is registered. Once you are registered and you wish to participate in our comprehensive distance learning you do not have to do any more.
- **When will middle school and high school students get their schedules?** Schedules will be handed out the week of August 31-September 4 for students that have completed the registration process. Schedules will coincide with the Chromebook/Materials checkout schedule at each respective building.

Elementary School - Tentative Schedule

Teachers will use Google Meet to interact with students in whole class and small group meetings. Google Classroom will be used for displaying schedules, assignments, and communications with students.

- **8:30 - 12 pm* -- Teacher-Facilitated Instruction:** Teacher facilitated instruction will occur in the morning of each day of the week, This instruction will focus on language arts, math, science, social studies, PE, Music, and Social Emotional Learning.
- **12:30-2:30pm* -- Applied Learning:** Applied learning will occur in the afternoon each day of the week. Students will apply their learning from the daily instruction and complete assignments/projects. Individualized, Teacher-Facilitated learning will also occur and information will be provided once the school year begins. There will also be teacher supported independent work, group and individual support sessions with teachers, Counselor check-ins and Parent/Teacher/Student check-ins.

*Times are approximate

Middle & High School - Tentative Schedule

Teachers will use Google Meet to interact with students in whole class and small group meetings. Google Classroom will be used for displaying schedules, assignments, and communications with students.

- **8:25 - 11:40 am* -- Teacher-Facilitated Instruction:** Teacher facilitated instruction will occur in the morning of each day of the week. The instruction will include 3-4 scheduled classes per day. Attendance will be taken for each class period.
- **12:30-2:30pm* -- Applied Learning:** Applied learning will occur in the afternoon each day of the week. Students will apply their learning from the daily instruction and complete assignments/projects. Individualized There will also be teacher supported independent work, group and individual support sessions with teachers, Counselor check-ins and Parent/Teacher/Student check-ins.

*Times are approximate

Hermiston Online!

- **When will Hermiston Online! School start?** The first day of school for students will be Monday, September 8.
- **What's the difference between Comprehensive Distance Learning and Hermiston Online!?** CDL is a short-term online solution until we can safely bring students and staff back to school buildings. CDL makes it possible to maintain a relationship with your regular school and classroom teacher. Hermiston Online! is designed to be a long-term option for families who want a fully online learning experience for their students. Students will not be taught by their regular teachers from their neighborhood school. Students in grades 9-12 are to remain enrolled in Hermiston Online! at least through the end of a semester to ensure that they can earn high school credits toward graduation.
- **Is Hermiston Online! free?** Yes
- **Are Hermiston Online! teachers also teaching in the CDL model?** No, teachers who serve Hermiston Online! are provided by Fuel Education. However, your student will still have access to our school counselors, nurses, administrators, and other school support personnel and services. Each building will have a Hermiston Online coordinator that will be progress monitoring for your student.
- **For those choosing Hermiston Online!, how will returning to a neighborhood school at the end of a semester be feasible when so many classes are year-long or specialized?** Hermiston Online! is designed for families who would choose this option even if COVID-19 didn't exist. Students in grades 9-12 must complete at least one full semester of Hermiston Online in order to earn credits toward graduation before returning to school. We'll do our best to align student schedules to their neighborhood schools. Moving back to your neighborhood school may bring some challenges and will require an adjustment period.
- **Will Advanced Placement (AP) and advanced math and science classes be offered at Hermiston Online!?** Yes. Advanced math, science and AP courses are offered at Hermiston Online!.
- **Will Hermiston Online! offer band or choir classes?** No. Hermiston Online does not offer performance music classes.
- **What technology will be provided?** All students enrolled in HSD will be issued district owned Chromebooks.
- **Was Hermiston On-line! created in response to COVID-19?** No, Hermiston On-line! is a long established option for Hermiston students and has been used for years as supplemental course offerings and remediation.
- **If enrolled in Hermiston Online! Can students still participate in sports at their attendance area school?** Yes. Think of Hermiston Online! as a virtual classroom that is part of your neighborhood school. Each student is registered as a student of their attendance area school. The student that has opted to join the Hermiston Online! program is able to participate in sports, attend dances and engage in extracurricular activities, just as if they were attending their **attendance area** school.

- **Do all of my children have to be in either CDL or Hermiston Online!?** No. A family can choose the best option for each of their children.
- **I am interested in Hermiston Online!, how do I sign up?** Please email Hermiston Online administration at hermistononline@hermistonsd.org and let them know you are interested and you will be provided a link to apply. For more information go to the website: https://www.hermistononline.org/

Learning Option Comparison Table

	Hybrid Learning	Comprehensive Distance Learning	Hermiston Online!
Location	Students attend physical school two to three days per week. The other days, students will participate in instructional activities designed by HSD teachers at home.	Students engage in Comprehensive Distance Learning from home. Temporary, until we can safely bring our learners back to live instruction on our schools.	Students participate in 100% online school as their full-time learning option. Requires commitment of at least one semester.
Enrollment	Students are enrolled at their attendance area school.		Students enroll in Hermiston Online! but they stay connected to attendance area school for events, activities, athletics, etc.
Learning Platform	Classes will utilize in-person and online learning platforms for all of the instruction. Students will have a dedicated teacher(s) who supports both online and in-person instruction.	Classes will utilize online learning platforms for all of their instruction. Students will have a dedicated teacher(s) who designs and delivers online instruction.	Students will use FuelEd curriculum and teachers for all of their instruction and support.
Curriculum	Teachers will implement HSD's adopted curriculum materials, including digital extensions associated with those adopted curriculum materials.		Academic content for Hermiston Online! is provided by FuelEd and is delivered by FuelEd teachers.
Daily Schedule	Students attend school two to three days per week, depending on student need. ... When not onsite, students will work through teacher assigned applied learning activities.	Teachers follow a developed schedule, that includes synchronous and asynchronous learning opportunities	Students self-pace their way through the curriculum.
Special Education (SpEd)	Teacher facilitated Specially Designed Instruction (SDI) will be provided synchronously using adopted curriculums.		Teacher facilitated instruction will be provided through Hermiston School District curriculum. Each student will be given time to meet with a teacher and receive SDI from a Hermiston teacher. This time will be scheduled by HSD Staff.

English Language Development (ELD)	Teacher- facilitated instruction will be provided synchronously using HSD's adopted English Language Development materials, including digital extensions associated with those adopted materials. Additional instructional support may be delivered asynchronously.	English Language Development services will be delivered by HSD licensed ELD teachers under the same guidelines as a Hybrid or On-Site Model.
School Counselor Support	School counselors will be available to all students who need emotional support. They will also be providing Social Emotional Learning lessons to our students through co-teaching with other HSD classroom teachers.	School counselors will be available to all students who need emotional support at the attendance area school.
Grading	Classes will be graded consistent with the grading processes in place PRIOR to the closure in March of 2020. There are, however, some exceptions at the high school level where a student may opt for a Pass/Fail. Students will be assessed both formally and informally to determine progress, mastery of state standards, and specific support needed. Grades can be accessed through PowerSchool and will also be provided through frequent grade updates and student progress information.	
Attendance	Attendance will be taken: ● Elementary School-- daily ● Middle & High School -- each class period	

Roles and Responsibilities in Comprehensive Distance Learning

EDUCATORS

- Connect with students daily through check-ins and/or classroom session.
- Deliver instruction through live and/or recorded classroom sessions.
- Provide individual and group feedback on assignments in a timely manner that is easily accessible to students, and when appropriate, to parents and caregivers.
- Build a sense of community and connectedness among students by including individual student voice when determining instructional engagement strategies.
- Create self-directed learning opportunities that are accessible for students and that help them continue to learn (e.g. through productive struggle).
- Create and communicate availability (office hours) to students, caregivers, and administrators.
- Understand roles of school personnel within each level of instructional programming for emergent bilingual students and students experiencing disabilities.

ADMINISTRATORS

- Encourage staff to design distance learning courses for deep learning, not just transmission of information or giving out assignments that are not connected to purposeful learning.
- Support staff to develop more detailed course design that includes timetables, learning tasks, and student learning outcomes.
- Encourage staff to collaborate and use similar frameworks and platforms to support families/caregivers working with more than one student.
- Plan alongside staff to determine the most appropriate assessments during distance learning for both formative and summative assessment processes.
- Accommodate for different teaching styles and student learning styles in online environments.
- Promote supportive relationships between staff and students.
- Continue to ensure clear communication is flowing to staff and families/caregivers.
- Provide digital literacy professional learning opportunities.

PARENTS/CAREGIVERS

- Review school-specific schedules and guidance from teachers.
- Review districtwide guidance on plans for grading.
- Review any school community messages.
- Support your child(ren) with checking and submitting assignments.
- Contact your child's/childrens' school(s) if you have questions.
- Families should proactively notify their teacher or a school administrator with any concerns about progress or additional support needed.
- Families should ensure that students are adhering to their school's contract for appropriate behavior on web enabled devices.

STUDENTS

- Connect with teachers on a regular basis based on your school's specific schedules (Parents/caregivers should review these schedules).
- Participate in classes and recorded teacher-led classes.
- Review and complete assignments.
- Ask questions or seek support when needed.
- Self-assess your understanding of the learning targets.
- Receive feedback from teachers.
- Attend regularly scheduled check-ins with teacher and let them know where you need help/clarification and where things are going well.
- Share your knowledge and interests with peers and educators.

Instructional Delivery

Asynchronous
Students learning at their own pace. Through videos, projects, etc.

Pre-recorded lectures, readings and podcasts.

Video demonstrations and worked problems.

Practice problems, discussion questions, and other activities.

Quizzes, assignments, and applications.

Analytical groups.

Synchronous
Students learning together through online classes and video conferencing

Virtual classrooms and live webinars.

Interaction between students in breakout groups or group presentations.

Checking in with students via instant messaging or video conferencing.

Focused activities with real-time interaction.

Office hours.

ADVANTAGES

- Scalability of delivery.
- Learner controls the pace.
- Combine the knowledge of multiple experts into one learning experience.
- Learning can be built upon and improved.
- Allows individualizations of learning.

- Promote feelings of belonging and connection.
- Motivate students who need face-to-face instruction, including some students with disabilities, the individual needs for whom must be prioritized in our planning.
- Engage reluctant learners with caregivers to coach attendance.
- Allow students to ask questions real-time and share ideas and concerns.