



CUSD Independent Study Update

Governing Board Meeting 8.5.21

New Legislation – AB130

Assembly Bill 130 Amends Education Code 51747 requiring districts to offer Independent Study (I.S.), for the 2021-22 school year only, to students whose health would be put at risk by in-person instruction, as determined by the parent/guardian.

The legislation allows the district to provide independent study in any of these ways:

- By contracting with another school district or County Office of Education, or by providing the option itself.
- Option selected must comply with requirements of synchronous instruction based on grade level, ability to re-enroll for in-person instruction within 5 instructional days, and progress monitoring.

Response to AB130 – I.S. Option

- Attended a number of webinars on the new legislative requirements
- Conducted an interest survey of families to support planning
- Contacted various entities as possible I.S. partners
- Obtained advice from our legal counsel
- Received clarification from County Superintendent

Considerations

- Support needs of students and families
- Impact on our staff
- Current teacher shortage
- Staff not explicitly trained to provide this type of independent study
- Avoid “Roomers and Zoomers” instructional delivery
- Plan must be in place for first day of 2021 school year
 - Teachers do not return for work until August 16
 - Limited capacity in current Home School program

Legal Obligations

- Charter schools are not required to provide Independent Study
- 11 of CUSD schools are charter schools
 - Rosemary Elementary is CUSD's only non-charter

For the 2021–22 school year only, school districts and COEs are required to offer IS as an educational option (Education Code [EC] Section 51745). This requirement does not apply to charter schools. - From CA Department of Education (CDE)

- While we are not required to provide an Independent Study option, we want our families to be aware of an option to support students whose health would be put at risk by in-person instruction, as determined by the parent or guardian.

Ocean Grove Charter School (OGCS) Provides Independent Study

- High quality Independent Study Program.
- In operation since 2005.
- CUSD has referred students to them in the past when our homeschool program was at capacity.
- Committed to collaboration on enrollment transition for students who are able to return for in-person instruction.
- Willingness to provide the same curriculum CUSD uses.
- Uses same benchmark assessments (iReady).

Process for Selecting Independent Study through OGCS

- Families choosing I.S. with Ocean Grove Charter (OGCS) will need to register directly with OGCS.
- Students will be allowed to re-enroll in CUSD for in-person instruction through the enrollment process.
 - CUSD will attempt to return students to the schools they attended prior to I.S. However, **we cannot guarantee this**, due to the dynamic nature of enrollment and capacity limitations.
- Students in CUSD on an inter-district transfer agreement may wish to check with their district of residence to consider the Independent Study option offered by that district.
- Independent Study is not recommended for students with an IEP.
 - Remaining in the district provides continuity of services
 - Students with IEP would need to meet with OGCS

Independent Study Information Resources

- Created [Independent Study](#) page on website
- Independent Study Option FAQ page
- August 3 presentation uploaded to I.S. page

Planning for August 19

- Our schools will continue to implement the public health recommendations for providing a safe school environment.
- Updated our [2021-22 Safe School Opening Plan](#)
- Students not enrolled in independent study, will be able to attend full-day, in-person instruction.