



SAUSALITO MARIN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Superintendent:
Board of Trustees:

Ito Garcia, Ed.D.
Ida Green(President), Bonnie Hough, Alena Maunder, Lisa Bennett, Yasmine McGrane

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

8/19/21

For the 2021-2022 school year, we are required to offer an independent study option to students and families to be made available to students whose health would be put at risk by in-person instruction, as determined by the parent or guardian. Independent Study will be offered by an interdistrict transfer agreement for one year with Novato Unified School District (NUSD). Students must transfer to NUSD to participate in Independent Study

State and federal laws require us to inform you of your option to enroll your student in an Independent Study program instead of in-person instruction. From these options, you may choose the one that best suits your child. This letter also explains:

- Your right to request a parent-teacher conference prior to enrollment to inform your decision.
- The process and your students' rights regarding procedures for enrolling, disenrolling, and re-enrolling in independent study.
- The asynchronous and synchronous instructional time that your student will have access to as part of independent study.

Requesting a Parent-Teacher Conference

It is your right to request a parent-teacher conference prior to enrolling your student in Independent Study in order to inform your decision and ensure that it is appropriate for your student. Please contact Eveta Jackson: ejackson@smcsd.org or 415-332-4573 or David Finnane: dfinnane@smcsd.org or 415-331-7530

Enrolling, Disenrolling & Re-Enrolling

Once you have determined that you would like to pursue Independent Study, you can begin the enrollment process. Independent Study will be offered as an interdistrict transfer agreement for one year. In order to participate in Independent Study you must transfer to Novato Unified School District:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1TI79y_skFsFOuParChdrXZJo2mxSRTneHB48LK_H6vU/viewform?edit_requested=true

If you are enrolled in Independent Study and would like to return to in-person instruction, you must follow the procedure for disenrolling <https://nUSD.org/enroll/>

Once disenrolled, should you need to return to Independent Study you are required to adhere to the re-enrollment process. <https://nUSD.org/enroll/>

Instructional Time

The goal of the Independent Study program is to provide an alternative to in-person instruction to students whose health may be put at risk by attending class face-to-face. As such, Independent Study is an educational program that provides instruction based on the state-adopted content standards by certificated teachers. There are specific requirements for instructional time that may include both synchronous and asynchronous work. These expectations will also be outlined in the students' written Learning Agreement, which must be signed prior to enrollment.

Instructional Time	Description	Length & Frequency
Synchronous Instructional Time	Classroom-style instruction or designated small group or one-on-one instruction delivered in person, or in the form of internet or telephonic communications and involving live, two-way communication between the teacher and student. Synchronous instruction shall be provided by the teacher(s) of record for that student.	<i>Daily Live Virtual Learning</i>
Live Interaction	Interaction between the student and school classified or certificated staff, and may include peers, provided for the purpose of maintaining school connectedness including but not limited to: wellness checks, progress monitoring, provision of services and instruction. This interaction may take place in person or in the form of internet or telephonic communication.	<i>Field Trips and Extracurricular activities</i>

Asynchronous Instructional Time	Forms of instruction that do not occur in the same place or at the same time. The term is most commonly applied to various forms of digital and online learning in which students learn from instruction—such as prerecorded video lessons or game-based learning tasks that students complete on their own—that are not being delivered in person or in real time. Yet asynchronous learning may also encompass a wide variety of instructional interactions, including email exchanges between teachers, online discussion boards, and course-management systems that organize instructional materials and correspondence, among many other possible variations.	<i>No Asynchronous Instruction</i>
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Parents or guardians may select an instructional program that best suits their child’s needs. If you have any questions beyond the details listed above, please contact igarcia@smcsd.org or [415-332-3190](tel:415-332-3190) to ask about the process.

Sincerely,



Itoco Garcia Ed. D.

Superintendent Sausalito Marin City School District

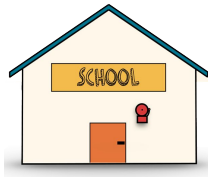
SHOW UP FOR SCHOOL 2021-22

INDEPENDENT STUDY (IS)

The California Legislature passed Senate Bill (SB 130), directing districts across the state to offer Independent Study (IS) as the educational option for 2021-22 for families who opt not to have their children return to in-person instruction in public K-12 schools. The Legislature designated IS as the one alternative to in-person learning for the 2021-22 school year only.

Districts do not have the option to offer “hybrid” learning as was done in 2020-21.

What Schools Need To Do



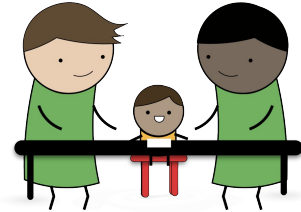
Offering Independent Study

- Districts must offer IS through their district, or may choose to contract with a County Office of Education (COE) or establish interdistrict transfer agreement with another school district.
- Board of Education must adopt and implement new board policies and written agreements that meet the criteria for AB130

How IS will work

- Students will receive both synchronous (instruction delivered with two-way communication between the student and teacher) and asynchronous (assigned work done independently)
 - Grades TK-3: Daily synchronous instruction for all students
 - Grades 4-8: Both daily live interaction & weekly synchronous instruction
 - Grades 9-12: Weekly synchronous instruction
- Students will take part in live interaction with teachers, aides, peers or other school personnel
- Students who wish to return to in-person instruction or IS will be returned to their preferred method of instruction no later than five instructional days after the district receives notice.

What Families Need to Know

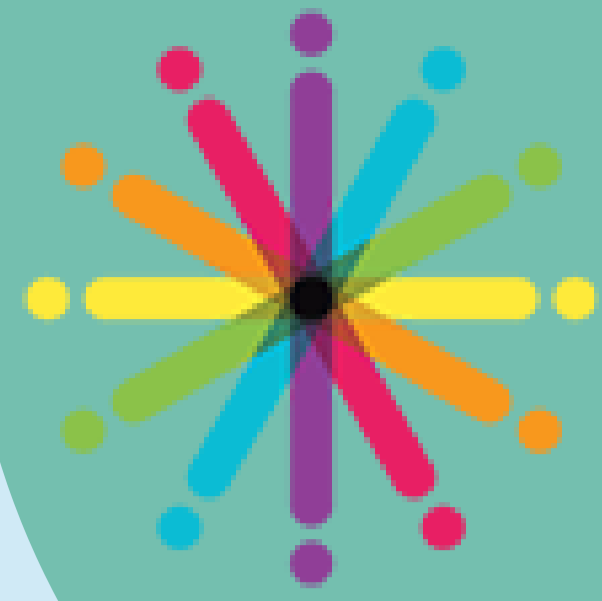


Family Notification

- Districts and COEs must notify parents and guardians of the option to enroll a student in in-person instruction or IS during the school year. That notification shall include written information on the district website. It should include, but is not limited to:
 - Right to request a pupil-parent-educator conference prior to enrollment in IS
 - Pupil rights regarding procedures for enrollment, disenrollment and re-enrollment in IS
 - The synchronous and asynchronous instruction time to be provided to the student (will vary by grade level)

Getting Your Child Enrolled in IS

- There must be a written agreement in place for each student participating in IS, which must be signed by student's parent, legal guardian or caregiver
- All schools/districts offering IS must offer to hold a pupil-parent-educator conference or school meeting via either phone, video conference or in-person before signing the IS written agreement. Attendees should have the chance to ask questions about:
 - Educational options
 - Curriculum offerings
 - Non-academic supports available
 - Families may choose to return their students to in-person instruction or IS at any point during the school year



NOVATO
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Virtual Independent Study Program

AN INNOVATIVE OPTION FOR STUDENTS TO LEARN IN A VIRTUAL ENVIRONMENT

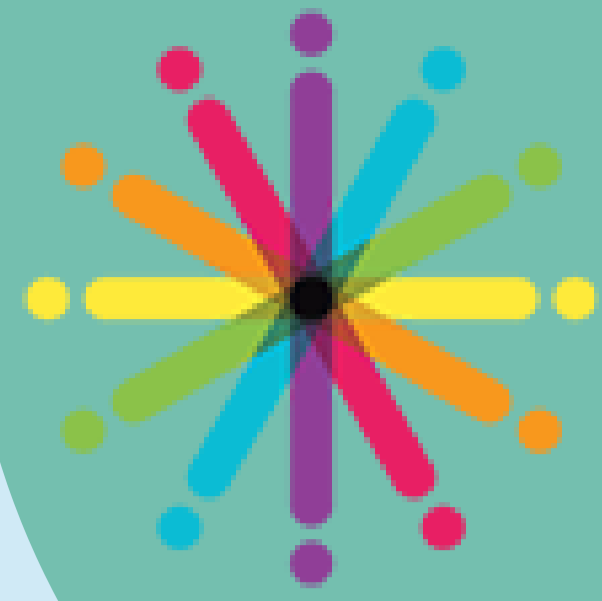
Grades TK-12

- Taught by Credentialed NUSD Teachers
- Daily Live Virtual Learning in grades TK-8
- Virtual Independent Study with weekly meetings and live instruction in grade 9-12
- Field Trips and opportunities for extracurricular activities
- Priority will be given to NUSD students
- Non-NUSD students are welcomed to apply for an interdistrict transfer**

Launching Fall 2021

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT
[HTTPS://NUSD.ORG/VIRTUAL-LEARNING-ACADEMY](https://nUSD.org/virtual-learning-academy)
OR CALL 415-493-4250

**TO APPLY FOR AN INTERDISTRICT TRANSFER VISIT
[HTTPS://NUSD.ORG/ENROLL](https://nUSD.org/enroll)



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Programa de Estudio Virtual Independiente

UNA OPCIÓN INNOVADORA PARA QUE LOS ESTUDIANTES APRENDAN EN UN AMBIENTE VIRTUAL

Grados TK-12

- Enseñado por maestros acreditados de NUSD
- Aprendizaje virtual diario en vivo para los grados TK-8
- Estudio independiente virtual con reuniones semanales e instrucción en vivo para grados 9-12
- Excursiones y oportunidades para actividades extracurriculares
- Se dará prioridad a los estudiantes de NUSD
- Los estudiantes que no pertenecen al NUSD pueden solicitar una transferencia entre distritos**

Empezando en otoño 2021

PARA MAS INFORMACION VISITA:

[HTTPS://NUSD.ORG/VIRTUAL-LEARNING-ACADEMY](https://nUSD.org/virtual-learning-academy)

O LLAMA AL 415-493-4250

** PARA APLICAR ENTRE DIFERENTE DISTRITOS VISITA:

[HTTPS://NUSD.ORG/ENROLL](https://nUSD.org/enroll)