

Explanation of district distance learning policies

SCHEDULE | Homeroom periods were created in preparation of hybrid learning as a designated day for sanitizing the campus, holding staff meetings, and relaying information to students. Block scheduling and five-hour school days were enacted to reduce contact and screen time.

PARTICIPATION | Camera usage is not mandatory because the district aims to create safe and comfortable learning environments. However, to ensure participation and engagement, teachers are required to submit daily participation marks onto PowerSchool.

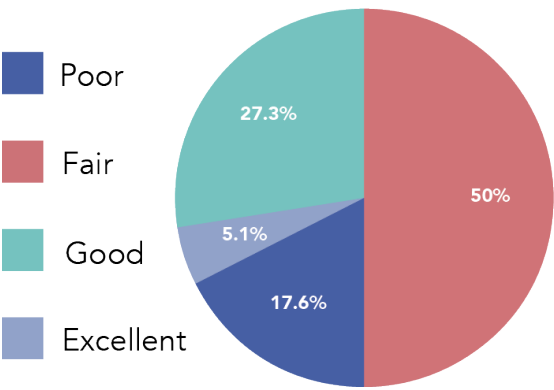
ATTENDANCE | As long as students are present in the Zoom meeting, they cannot be marked absent if unresponsive, but teachers may contact their families to assess the situation. If unsuccessful, homeschool coordinators and counselors will conduct home visits.

CHEATING | The district purchased plagiarism detection software, and teachers are utilizing platforms to combat cheating. To ensure students are treated fairly, incidents are not recorded into disciplinary records unless the teacher directly witnessed it or has definitive evidence.

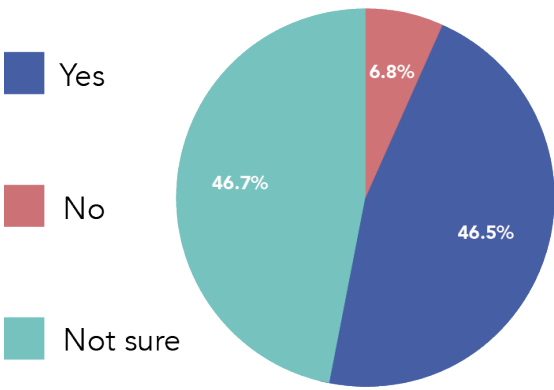
Students reflect on their first semester of distance learning

OUT OF 454 RESPONSES

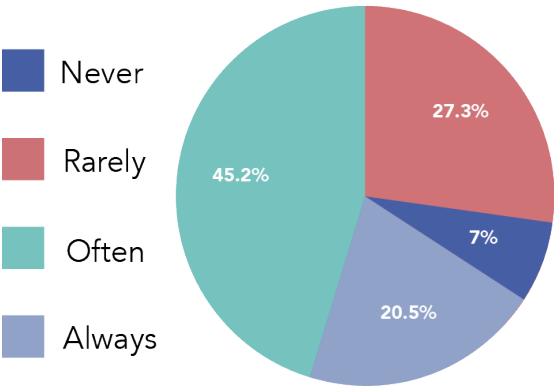
How would you rate the quality of your education under distance learning?



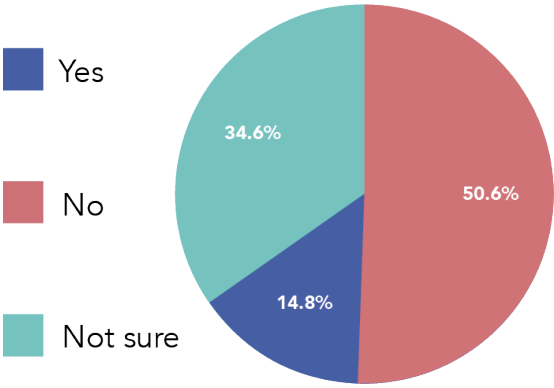
Do you think that the district could provide more support for students?



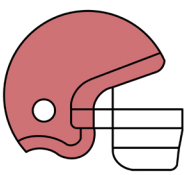
How often do you feel overwhelmed or isolated during distance learning?



Do you feel safe returning to school this school year?



Adaptations among extracurriculars amid pandemic



Sports are no longer allowed to condition, and teams are debating about tryouts and practice options. Teams are operating under the modified 2020-21 CIF schedule, primarily meeting through Zoom.



Performing groups, such as All Male and Choro, are meeting and practicing on Zoom and hosting virtual tryouts. Performances and competitions are tentative.



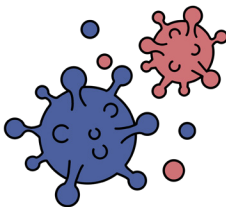
Service and recreational clubs, such as Environmental and Art Club, are offering events that promote social distancing. Several clubs have been hosting both virtual and physical fundraisers.



Academic groups, such as Academic Decathlon, are continuing to meet and prepare for online competitions either as a team or through independent study.

COVID-19's impact on AUSD

Following school closure, the district coordinated several approaches to mitigate the difficulties of distance learning in accordance with the pandemic's progression.



March 7: The first case of COVID-19 in the City of Alhambra was reported several months after the disease surfaced in late December of 2019. The number of cases continued to rise in an exponential trend.



March 16: AUSD dismissed over 16,000 students from all 21 schools and initiated distance learning until April 6 as a precautionary measure to ensure the health and safety of students and staff.



March 24: District employees began distributing Chromebooks to students who did not have the materials for distance learning and completed a Device Request Form by drive-through appointments.



April 2: AUSD announced that students will not return to campus and will remain under distance learning for the remainder of the 2019-20 school year. As a result, many activities were postponed or cancelled.



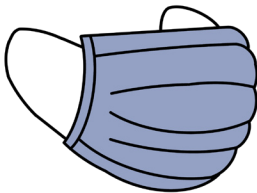
April 6: Teachers officially began technology training during a professional development day. They were given a month to determine their level of technological expertise and which topics they needed to improve on.



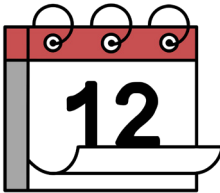
April 7: To ensure students will have access to nutritious food, AUSD resumed food services at four areas: the district office, Marguerita, Granada, and Ynez Elementary Schools. As distance learning progressed, more sites were added.



April 29: The district enforced a new grading policy in which grades during school closure can only improve. Students can petition to receive credit instead of letter grades, and those unable to participate will not be penalized.



Spring-Fall: AUSD purchased personal protective equipment, such as disposable and cloth masks and air filters, in order to preserve health and sanitation during the transition from distance learning to hybrid learning.



Aug. 12: The 2020-21 school year opened in distance learning with a revised schedule. Extended home learning, block scheduling, and homerooms, as well as new policies, were introduced.



Oct. 28: Superintendent Denise Jaramillo announced that the district will continue distance learning until at least the end of January. Refinements to distance learning will be made.