



## Frequently Asked Questions

(Virtual Elementary and Secondary Parent Meeting, July 15 and 16, Topical Q&A)

The following are a collection of representative questions asked during the Virtual Parent Meetings for Elementary and Secondary School families held on July 15 and 16, 2020. Questions have been organized under themes. Other questions, such as those involving specific circumstances or a personal nature, can be addressed directly to administrators in the Elementary and Secondary Schools. Contact information is provided at the end of this document.

### ***Recess***

1. Are these face masks required outside for play/recess? What is face covering requirement during recess? Can students use face masks and/or face shields?

Students will remain in their Elementary School 'ohana groups. For the Secondary School, one grade level will be scheduled for recess outside per day for Grades 6-8 and Grades 9-12. The Elementary School will plan organized activities for students to participate in during recess. All recess activities for both Elementary and Secondary Schools will include proper social distancing under teacher supervision.

Face masks are not required during recess, especially if students are participating in physical movement activities, including running. Students will bring face mask storage bags or containers, clearly labeled with their names, out to recess with them. Students may have the option of wearing masks or face shields during recess as long as it does not impede their physical movement.

### ***Distance Learning***

2. Will parents have any option of distance learning if they are not comfortable? Will IPA offer 100% distance learning in the event a family falls within the category of "high risk"? Can distance learning be optional for those families who want it?

Based on feedback from our constituents, there may be unique circumstances leading us to conclude distance learning is the best option for particular students and their families. The Elementary and Secondary Schools are currently exploring options for distance learning during the upcoming semester. IPA has preliminarily discussed platforms appropriate for distance learning that meet our needs. Information is forthcoming and should be shared with families by the end of this month, July 2020.



### ***Learning During Quarantine***

3. In the event a child in the cohort is found positive, what other high-quality education will be provided for students? Additionally, if a family is found positive or placed in quarantine, what will be the provisions for the class, school, and other families, etc.?

Distance learning will be offered to individuals or groups that require quarantine. Distance learning will look different than on-campus instruction, but will still focus on solid academics for students to be successful in our educational program.

Due to this potentiality, we will be more flexible with our attendance policy by increasing allowable absences for the school year to 25. We strongly encourage families to reach out to us so we can better understand your family's situation and how we can support you in school.

### ***Cohort Sizes, Teacher-Student Ratios, Classroom Set-Up***

4. What size are the cohorts? What are the student teacher ratios and distance between each desk? What will the spacing be within the classroom with 16 kids in a room?

The size of 'ohana groups will be no more than 16 students in a class. There will be one teacher assigned to each classroom. There will be approximately 16 students in a Secondary School classroom or learning cohort.

Classrooms will be set up and furniture will be arranged to have students separated at least 3 feet apart facing the same direction with the goal of at least 6 feet apart. Seating arrangements may include having students face the same direction (and not each other) and using barriers such as walls or bookcases between students. Each student will receive a personal divider made of corrugated plastic to be utilized in the classroom when face coverings are removed when eating snacks or lunch. The dividers are provided to students for their personal use and are not shared with other students.

### ***Face Covering Requirements in Classrooms***

5. So do I understand it correctly, the student can wear a face shield alone in the classroom?

Yes. A student must either wear a face shield or mask in their classrooms.

When students are in transition, such as arriving at school, leaving school, on their way to the restroom or using the restroom, or accessing lockers, face masks are required.

During snack, recess, or lunch times in classrooms, students will set-up their personal dividers and remove their face shields or masks to eat. When the face shields or masks are not in use, such as during snack or lunch times in classrooms, students should store them in bags or containers, clearly labeled with their names.



### ***Outdoor Classes and Lunches***

6. Is it possible to move lunch outdoors? Could some classes be held outside?

We understand that being outdoors is safer for all and will find as many opportunities for our students to be outside as much as possible. IPA will encourage teachers to take their students outside for learning experiences as much as possible, while maintaining proper social distancing.

In the Elementary School, students will be outside a minimum of twice a day for recess. PE and Sustainability/Gardening activities will also take place outdoors.

For the Secondary School, one grade level will be scheduled for recess and lunch outside per day for Grades 6-8 and Grades 9-12. In this way, students will have the opportunity to be outside with their grade level on a regular schedule.

### ***Air Quality***

7. It is my understanding that every classroom needs to have fresh air flowing through and not be closed with the a/c running.

The windows in our buildings cannot be opened. The new air purification system will enhance our current air condition units in each building. The system will actively purify airborne pollutants at the source.

### ***Sanitation***

8. How often on a daily basis will bathrooms, railings, door knobs, etc. be sanitized (every hour, half hour)? With students using the bathroom more because of frequent hand washing, how often will they be cleaned?

We are currently working on a schedule, with our vendor, to ensure our campus adheres to sanitizing and cleaning protocols. The health and safety of our school community is our top priority.

### ***Personal Dividers***

9. Can the divider be used during class time instead of a face mask? Why are the dividers to be used during meals?

Dividers are used during snack and lunch because students will need to remove their face masks or shields to eat. The dividers are individually assigned to each student to allow for extra protection. At this time, we will require students to wear a face mask or shield in the classroom.

10. If someone tests positive, will the teachers in the cohort stay home too?

If a one person, whether a teacher or student, is exposed or tests positive for COVID-19, that specific 'ohana group, learning cohort, or class will not attend school (based upon contact tracing and exposure). The school will monitor the situation. Appropriate disinfection protocols will take place. If such an event occurs, we will work in cooperation with the Hawaii Department of Health.

### ***Staggered Drop-Off and Pick-Up***

11. How will staggered drop off/pick up times be enforced? If students arrive at 730 and school starts at 8, where will the students go? I have kids in different drop off/pick up times. Is that being taken into consideration?

It is imperative that all members of our school community follow our Navigating Reopening expectations for drop off and pick up. Administration will follow-up in situations when there are misunderstandings of our new guidelines. We know it will take some time for us to get used to these new procedures. If a family has unique circumstances regarding drop off and pick up, please contact your school administrator.

### ***Availability of Presentation***

12. Will this presentation be available to view later? I apologize- we joined late and I'd love to catch up? To follow-up at the end of the session, will the questions asked during this feed be emailed to each family?

The presentation is based on our Navigating Reopening document and Addendum A. Additional questions from the Virtual Meeting are answered here topically grouped by themes. If you have additional questions or concerns, please contact your school administrator.

### ***Contact Information for Administrators***

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