VAUGHN INTERNATIONAL STUDIES ACADEMY | SCHOOL YEAR 20-21

July 2020

School Re-entry Plan Information

Dear VISA School Community,

On behalf of VISA's administration and teaching staff we would like to thank you for your ongoing support, patience, and understanding as we continue to navigate through the various hurdles impacting our students, families, and community. We recognize the last few months have brought about many uncertainties for our Vaughn community, but as we plan for the upcoming school year, we want to assure you that your students' safety is at the forefront of our decision making. Therefore, as we return to school for the 2020-2021 year we will implement a re-entry plan which consists of various phases based on distanced, hybrid, and in-person instructional models. This will ensure the safety of all our Vaughn community.

We will begin our 2020-2021 school year on **August 5th** via distance learning. Vaughn and VISA Administration will continue to provide updates to students and families as we move through the various phases of our re-entry plan. Keeping the unique needs and circumstances of our Vaughn Community in mind, along with on-going feedback from all stakeholders, the VISA Administration team has created an adapted schedule for the 20-21 school year. The adapted schedule will consist of virtual/distance learning in some capacity during the Fall 2020 semester. This will include interaction through the use of a computer, as well as delivery of live instruction and check-in time with teachers.

We thank you in advance for your ongoing support and consideration as VISA continues to adapt plans based on guidance we receive. More information regarding these schedule adaptations can be found in this newsletter. If you have further questions regarding our new schedule or re-entry plans please reach out to VISA's Main Office at 818-896-7954.

VISA's teachers and support staff are looking forward to continuing instruction with your students, as we envision a historic year together with Vaughn's mission and vision serving as our foundation.

Sincerely,

VISA Administration

VISA Re-entry Phases & Instructional Models: For all phases, we will provide support and options for families who need additional resources and learning strategies.

Phase 1 Distance Learning <u>Starting August 5th</u>	100% online learning. Distance learning occurs when the learner and instructor, or source of information, are separated by time and distance and therefore cannot meet in a traditional physical classroom setting.				
Phase 2 Hybrid Learning / Distance Learning	Hybrid Learning (Choice A): Up to 50% in person, remaining blended. Distance Learning (Choice B): 100% online. Learning occurs both in the advisory classroom (or other physical space) and/or via distance learning.				
Phase 3 Face to Face Learning / Distance Learning	Face to Face Learning (Choice A): Up to 100% in person. (Reduced daily schedule continues to accommodate social distancing), remaining blended. Distance Learning (Choice B): 100% online learning. The content teacher and the student meet physically in a set place for a set time for either one-on-one learning or, most commonly, in group classroom lessons with social distancing and health and safety measures in place.				
Phase 4 Face to Face on campus	100% in person (regular schedules resumes).				

VISA's Block Instructional 2020-2021 SY Schedule

In collaboration, with teachers, staff, and families, we have identified a research-based block scheduling model that addresses the concerns that have been shared by students and faculty around managing a six-course load via distance learning. For the 2020-2021 year VISA will implement this block schedule model.

This model *typically* divides the school day into *approximately* three 70-minute periods with time added for advisory, break, lunch, support/intervention, and teacher conference period. Within this model, each class lasts for one semester, and is worth 10.0 units, except for advisory, which would continue to be a 2.5 unit course each semester. Teachers are responsible for teaching three core classes each semester, plus advisory. Students enroll in three classes in the first semester and three new classes in the second semester. There will be a few year-long math courses that will be offered to students who have been identified to need the additional support based on academic data.

Benefits of Re-entry Plan

- VISA will build a strong foundation to re-engage students, support adults, rebuild relationships, and create a positive learning environment with high academic outcomes.
- Students will successfully pass their three courses with a C or better due to fewer course load.
- Stronger student-teacher relationships due to more scheduled class time.
- Students will dive deeper into the curriculum and/or receive additional support.
- Students and teachers can effectively prepare for fewer courses each semester via Distance Learning and/or a Distance Learning Hybrid model.
- With fewer students each semester, teachers will effectively connect with students individually and provide students and their families with more personalized feedback.

Block Instructional Schedule: 2020-2021 SY					
Fall 2020	Spring 2021				
Teacher Planning/Collaboration Time/Office Hours	Teacher Planning/Collaboration Time/Office Hours				
Advisory	Advisory				
Course 1	Course 1				
Course 2	Course 2				
Course 3	Course 3				
Office Hours: Intervention/Support: Small-Group, 1:1	Office Hours: Intervention/Support: Small-Group, 1:1				

Distance Learning Student Schedule: 2020-2021 SY								
Time	Mondays	Tuesdays	Wednesdays	Thursdays	Fridays			
9:00 am - 9:30 am	Advisory: Live Morning Meeting							
9:35 am - 10:45 am	Period 1 (Online Live Session + Classwork)	Time to work on classwork independently						
		(self-paced)						
11:05 am - 12:15 pm	Period 2 (Online Live Session + Classwork)							
	Lunch: 12:15 pm - 12:50 pm							
12:55 pm - 2:05 pm	Period 2 (Online Live Session + Classwork)	Time to work on classwork independently (self-paced)						
2:10 pm - 3:35 pm	After-School: Attend tutoring sessions and/or after-school activity	After-School (no teacher office hours, but there may be after school activities offered through Think Together, or clubs may want to schedule meetings during this time)						
*Switch to courses 4/5/6 in Spring								