

Distance Learning at ABLE

A Message from ABLE Superintendent, Clem Lee

August 24, 2020

First Day of School:

Tuesday, September 8, 2020

We Appreciate Parents' Input

On Thursday, August 20, upwards of 150 ABLE parents participated in a tele-townhall online meeting to hear the details of our distance learning models and to provide feedback. I was able to hear the entire meeting but technology challenges of my own kept me from participating – a good reminder for me of how NOT simple this can be. Our team received a lot of good input, and our plans were adjusted accordingly.

Ongoing Feedback

Nothing is set in cement. We will monitor the effectiveness of our programs and ask for your feedback on a regular basis. If something is not working as well as it should be, we will adjust it.

First Week of School

The first week of school will be primarily spent familiarizing students and families with our online learning program, distributing necessary materials and supplies, working out any kinks, and providing support and assistance to anyone who needs it.

It helps if we all remain patient and calm – I know, a tall order in these crazy times. If ever you are frustrated, don't stress out, REACH OUT - and someone from the school will get back to you with the support that you need.

Never Hesitate to Ask

Never let your inability to get to campus hold you up. ABLE has the capacity to make deliveries when you have challenges. And we will do anything else in our power to assist our families anytime.

Each School's Distance Learning Model

Visit the [Distance Learning page](#), followed by the specific school: elementary (K-4), middle school (5-8), and high school (9-12). You will find a description of the instructional program at each level along with a letter from your student's principal. Information will continue to be added here as it becomes available.

Roles and Responsibilities

Some roles remain traditional, but we have created some additional levels of support for our students.

- **teachers** – Teachers plan and provide instruction, document student engagement in accordance with state guidelines, assign grades, differentiate instruction to focus on

individual needs, and provide for individual and small group instruction. Teachers may be contacted by email by clicking on their name on the school website or by calling the school.

- **advisors** – Advisors monitor student attendance and academic performance, establish regular communications with families, serve as a regular and reliable point of contact to ensure families' needs are met, and alert the ABLE Engagement Team to trigger tiered re-engagement when a student is excessively absent.
- **liaisons** – Liaisons are members of the ABLE Engagement Team who apply multi-level, progressive strategies to reconnect students with distance learning, assess student needs in the process, and make the appropriate referrals to ensure support.
- **principals** – Principals are the instruction leaders of each school. They supervise teachers, oversee instruction and programs, and interact with families to address concerns and provide support.

Visiting Campus in Person: COVID-19 Screening Procedures for Visitors to Campus

While we remain in distance learning ABLE will practice all appropriate mask/distancing/sanitation protocols for essential employees, who report to the campus for work and for visitors to the campus. If you need to visit the campus in-person we ask that you call in advance for an appointment (209-478-1600). All visitors will have their temperature taken and will complete a screening questionnaire prior to entry. The screening station is located outside the main office; look for posted signs. Any person who posts a temperature of greater than 100.0°F or who fails the screening questionnaire will be denied entry to campus. Those who enter will be reminded to use hand sanitizer, to wear a mask, and to follow all health and safety protocols. ABLE appreciates everyone's cooperation and support during these difficult times.

Computer Pickup *(updated 8/31/2020)*

Laptops are distributed to students in grades 5-12th by appointment. Please call the office to schedule yours.

iPads for K-4th graders were distributed the week of August 31st. For questions, please give us a call.

Computer and Technology Support

For support with learning platforms, assignments, etc. connect with a teacher or your advisor. For assistance with equipment contact the Technology Department via the [Help Desk](#), by calling 209-478-1600 and selecting the menu option for tech support, or by clicking on the link on the student's login screen.

School Supplies and Materials

Delivery of supplies and curricular materials to ABLE has been slowed due to the pandemic. We want to have everything in hand before we start the process of distribution to minimize confusion and prevent multiple trips to campus.

Supply lists of necessary school supplies for each grade level will be posted soon. We are asking families to provide as many supplies as possible due to our impaired budget for the

upcoming year. Materials that families are not able to provide will be distributed in phases starting during the first week of school.

Curricular materials will be distributed during the first week of school.

Families will be alerted via the website, email, and robocalls of the schedule.

School Meals

Check out 5-Day Meal Kits by [clicking here](#).

Meals may be picked up every Monday and Tuesday from 7:30 am – 10:30 am. You can let us know if your family will be participating by calling 209-478-1600 ext. 3402 or by clicking on [THIS LINK](#). Your input ensures that we order plenty of meals. Serving times are subject to change, so check the ABLE website for updates.

For pickup enter the alleyway from the Pacific Avenue frontage road and proceed east. Pickup is at near the administration building. [See map](#).

Students do not have to be present to pick up meals. Social distancing – including wearing face masks - and other health and safety protocols will be in place. Parents/Guardians will be asked to provide student's or students' full name and grade. Families are asked to remain in the vehicle while staff places meals in the trunk or back seat of the car. Please have a cleared space in the trunk or back seat.

Questions? Contact ABLE's Food Services Coordinator, [Jourdan Cavitt](#) via email or at 209-478-1600 ext.3402.

Schedules and Class Lists *(updated 9/2/2020)*

K-4th grade class lists are posted on the [Elementary page](#). Middle school and high school schedules are available by logging onto [PowerSchool](#). Make sure to view before Tuesday, September 8th. Students' PowerSchool login was issued with the ABLE laptop. If your student does not have an ABLE laptop, please make sure to call the main office to schedule a time to pick up your PowerSchool login to view your classes. All 5th thru 12th grade students will be expected to attend all four classes virtually on the first day of school. If you have any questions, please call the main office at 209-478-1600. You can also visit the [Distance Learning page](#) for more information.

Students with Special Needs

ABLE's Special Education is in full swing with the start of school. Special needs students will receive a separate layer of support to ensure their access to the core curriculum and success! Special education personnel are already reaching out. For assistance, email: mindie.brown@ablecharter.com OR karen.spurgeon@ablecharter.com