



**Astoria School District Parents & Families
Parent Q & A - September 22, 2020 Meeting
Concerning Astoria School District 2020-2021 Return to School**

This Q & A was created using the questions from the 9/22/2020 Parent Feedback Meeting. Please check the [District Website](#) for Parent FAQs and questions asked and answered prior to this meeting.

- 1. I was unable to attend the parent meeting on September 22nd. Was that meeting recorded, and if so, where can I find it? Will there be another opportunity to participate in the parent meeting?**

Answer: Yes, we will post a recording of all parent meetings to the District website, send by email, and post to Facebook. Parent meeting recordings are posted to the website the day after the meeting.

Now that Remote Learning is in session, we will reduce the parent meetings to a biweekly occurrence. The next parent meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 6, 2020. For the time being, we will continue to break the parent meeting into three sessions: Elementary at 6:00 PM, Secondary at 6:45 PM, and Spanish Speaking at 7:30 PM. Notice will be sent out to parents via email, Facebook, and REMIND.

- 2. Can families receive more than one Chromebook?**

Answer: The District continues to fill Chromebook orders as soon they are received. Chromebooks are back-ordered nationally, and the District can only provide a limited amount per family at this time. The District is starting to complete the orders for all children in families on a one-to-one ratio; although, this may not be complete until the District receives the Chromebooks on backorder.

- 3. Can parents log their kids into Edgenuity using an iPad? What about other tablets?**

Answer: First, on any Chrome or Windows device, students should ensure that they are logged into their student Google account both through Clever and in their browser. Once they log in, they should be able to access Edgenuity through the Remote Learning Portal on the front page of the District website, as long as the tablet used is compatible with the supported browsers: Chrome, Microsoft Edge, Firefox, Safari. On iOS devices (iPhones or iPads), the student must also be added as a user account in the settings menu. We are creating tutorials for this to add to our parent resource website.

4. Can my child get into a Technology Hub?

Answer: Currently, the District places students in hubs who do not have internet access or do not have computers at home. The District will continue to re-evaluate openings in Technology Hubs based on technology access and student need.

5. I was unable to pick up school supplies last Friday. How do I get the school supplies?

Answer: School Supplies may be picked up at the transportation department from Noon to 4:00 PM daily. The District will have one more round of supply pick up when back-ordered materials are received.

6. Are there any opportunities for my child to participate in engagement activities?

Answer: Astoria School District staff is working to provide student engagement activities. Some of these will be online; some may be in person if outside and considered safe. Expect more information by next week concerning student engagement opportunities.

7. Can my child stay online all year?

Answer: Yes - Even if a parent signs their child up for hybrid, they may change their selection at any time to stay in Remote Learning. Based on the situation, this may change the child's teacher at the elementary level.

8. When are students returning on-site?

Answer: As a part of The School Board's decision to start the school year in Remote Learning, the Board stated they would re-evaluate the model at the beginning of October. Based on the current health metrics, the District will not bring students back onsite for at least three weeks. The District will continue monitoring community health and safety to determine when school will be back in session. The school board plans to discuss reentry at their October 14 board meeting.

9. When will special education classes begin? For instance, speech classes.

Answer: Special education classes and supports are starting this week through next week. Speech services, specifically, will be beginning next week. There are two speech language pathologists (SLP) and one speech language pathologist assistant (SLPA) who will be working with identified students in the District. At this time, the meetings will be conducted remotely. If you have questions about Special Education, please contact Travis Roe at troe@astoriak12.org or 503.325.0476.

10. It looks like the elementary learning platform still only has math and reading. Will social studies and science be added soon?

Answer: Yes, they should be there now. There was some trouble with elementary teachers' accessibility to set up core classes, but they have been uploaded and are

working on getting them set up now. Teachers are going to be spending time teaching students how to access the curriculum in Edgenuity.

11. Are there any plans to increase live lesson time with the teachers if distance learning continues indefinitely?

Answer: Currently, every elementary level student has a 15-30 minute advisory “morning meeting” each day, followed by 15-30 of daily core live instruction, in addition to their lessons within Edgenuity. We will be adding small group reading meetings to that schedule once teachers have assessed all of their students. We are limited to the number of minutes we can assign a student to instructional hours, but we will continue to evaluate that shift as we progress through the school year.

12. Regarding the high school core classes with many students (over 150), is there a strategy for reducing the size into smaller groups?

Answer: We are continuing to evaluate the learning in large class sections. Large courses are currently being taught with multiple staff members supporting the course, whether that be a team-teaching model or instructional assistants supporting instruction. Utilizing Office Hours for small group instruction will also be a strategy used to support student learning.

13. I was under the impression from an earlier call that the middle school kids would have access to electives/enrichment in Edgenuity. When will this be available?

Answer: The middle school is offering enrichment classes through specialists. If the student does not have the enrichment class on their schedule, please call AMS to adjust their day to include enrichment.

14. How are you addressing the workload for all students to ensure that students using the hub can realistically stay on track and complete work within a 2-hour window each day? It already seems like my freshman could end up with far more work than could be accomplished in 2 hours each day.

Answer: We are currently discussing and evaluating student workload. Whether students access their classes through the technology hub or from their home, we would like the time needed to view classes and complete assignments to be balanced with other core classes. One of our strategies is to ensure that the core class instructors understand the workload in other core classes to stay balanced and synchronized.

15. Is a student's grade jeopardized by not being at the live class?

Answer: The short answer is no. There are several ways that a student can engage in and attend classes. At the secondary level, if a student cannot participate in the live session, they can watch the recorded session after the class is complete and notify that teacher that they have observed the recorded session. As long as there is communication and completion of the work assigned, that will constitute attendance.

16. How will you continue to keep parents and families informed about the reopening of the 2020-2021 school year?

Answer: In addition to email and social media communication, the District will be conducting a biweekly Virtual Parent Meeting every other Tuesday beginning at 6:00 PM, to discuss the opening of the 2020-2021 school year. Notice and instruction to join the meeting(s) by computer or telephone will be sent to parents before the meeting. If you miss the meeting, the recording will be available the following day. As we progress through the school year, the district has developed a communication plan that will include regular updates to parents.

17. Who can I contact if I have any school-related questions?

Answer: Please call (503) 325-6441, and District Office staff will provide you with assistance. You can also contact the school that your child attends for more information.