Marin Newsletter
September 11, 2020

Office: (510) 558-4740
Attendance Line: (510) 558-4787

Attendance: Every day it seems there’s a new procedure to develop and finesse as we stretch our wings and adapt to remote learning. Part of the new Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan discussed at the School Board meeting on Tuesday this week involves how we account for student attendance and engagement.

Whereas we used to use A for Absent and T for Tardy in Aeries, students are now marked as 1, 2, or 4. These new codes reflect different levels of engagement in the remote learning process:

1 = DLE (Distance Learning Engaged) The student is attending all Zoom sessions and doing all classwork. No code in the Aeries field is the same as 1.

2 = DLNE (Distance Learning Not Engaged) The student is not attending Zoom sessions or doing any classwork. DLNE results in an auto dial call to families.

4 = DLPE (Distance Learning Partially Engaged) The student may be attending some Zoom sessions, doing some classwork, or there is communication with the family indicating that they are trying to overcome tech problems, etc.

When a student’s engagement decreases, classroom teachers, specialists, office staff and administrators reach out to families in order to remove barriers, add interventions, and provide support focused on the goal of increasing student engagement. (Details on how to notify office staff and respond to auto calls are listed below.)

In the event that your child is going to be absent, please call our Attendance Line at (510)558-4787 before 10:00 am or OR email the school secretary Janet Nichols at jnichols@ausdk12.org 1) Child’s Full Name, 2) Teacher Name, and 3) Reason for the Absence. (If we don’t hear from you when your child is absent, an autodialer call will be sent. Parents have a maximum of five (5) days to excuse an absence.

We appreciate and understand that this new attendance structure requires teamwork and we are grateful for your partnership in the process!
**Familias Latinas de Albany Virtual Event:** Familias Latinas de Albany is hosting a virtual cafecito this Saturday, September 12, at 10 am via Zoom. It’s a chance to meet, share our experiences of the last few weeks, get to know each other, and give each other some *coraje* to keep going!

**Join Zoom Meeting:** [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89013419856](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89013419856)
Meeting ID: 890 1341 9856

**Updates from Familias Latinas De Albany:** Volunteers needed for the following fun virtual events for our kids. Click on the links to sign up to volunteer. [Dia de los Muertos on Oct. 30](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89013419856), [Dia de los Reyes on Jan. 9](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89013419856), and [Dia de los Niños on Apr. 30](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89013419856). Also, please fill out the start of the school year survey to help us evaluate our most urgent needs: [English survey](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89013419856) or [Español survey](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89013419856). If you’d like to coordinate a tutoring network or have experience doing so, please reach out to Familias Latinas at this address, we can use your expertise!

**Having technical difficulties?** Our tech department is hosting a tech support office hour at Marin this Tuesday, September 15th from 8:15-9:15 am. Please join the zoom meeting at [https://ausdk12.org.zoom.us/j/99989605062?pwd=eXB1TVN6eElpVzdGRXZNd3BTdXpiZz09](https://ausdk12.org.zoom.us/j/99989605062?pwd=eXB1TVN6eElpVzdGRXZNd3BTdXpiZz09)
Meeting ID: 999 8960 5062, Passcode: 338203

Can’t make it on Tuesday morning? Can’t even log into Zoom?? Please email the tech department at helpdesk@ausdk12.org

**Albany Disability Squad Steering Committee:** There is a new support and advocacy group for students accessing or in need of special education called the [Albany Disability Squad](#). Please see their [Newsletter](#) to learn more including a support group on Wednesday night. Please also consider responding to their anonymous [survey](#) by September 11th.

**Zoom Etiquette:** Thank you to parents for assisting your children with technology and getting on Zoom meetings! To support teachers and all students in the class, we ask that you follow this important Zoom Etiquette:

1. After you have assisted your child with getting online, please make sure you and/or siblings are not visible on the Zoom screen with your child, as this can be distracting and would not happen in the regular classroom setting.
2. Please do not reprimand your child in front of the other children. This can make students uncomfortable. If you need to redirect or refocus your child, please make sure you are on mute so that the rest of the class does not hear your interaction.
3. If, for any reason, you need to remove your child from a Zoom meeting, please do so without interrupting instruction and follow up with an email to the teacher.
4. When teachers have students live on Zoom, they are not able to have individual conversations with you. Please schedule appointments with teachers during times when they are not teaching if you would like to connect with them.

As always, it is important for adults to model the kind of behavior we would like to instill in our children. During these trying times, it is especially important to be cognisant of modeling kindness, patience, and generosity with ourselves and others. We very much appreciate your support.
School Pictures: We’re excited to announce that we will be having school picture days this fall! We and the district have worked with our photography company, Blue Note Photography (the same people as last year, just under a new name), to develop a photography plan that is safe and as simple as possible under our current circumstances. We hope you will take advantage of this opportunity to briefly visit the school, have a photo session, and have your child/ren be included in this years’ class photo.

There will be two windows for photography: **Wednesday October 7 from 8:30am - 12:30pm** and **Thursday October 8 from Noon - 4pm**. The entrance for picture day will be the stairs at the south end of the campus, near room 16. In order to take part, you must first sign up for a specific time slot here: [http://bluenote.as.me/marin](http://bluenote.as.me/marin). The time you select is the beginning of a 15 minute window, during which you may arrive anytime. Please select the quantity of sessions equal to the number of children arriving with you.

These time slots are limited to avoid crowding and maintain social distancing guidelines. You are encouraged to bring all Marin students in your household at one time. If you are part of a “pod,” you may come as a unit with a single guardian to help reduce the number of people onsite.

Nathan Phillips  
nathan@nathanphillipsphotography.com  
www.nathanphillipsphotography.com  
510-517-1505

Aeries Parent Portal: Please check and make sure your email addresses are accurate in the Aeries portal. You will receive all newsletters and other school communication via email via the address that is listed in Aeries. The Aeries Parent Portal will be open for you to update data and download emergency forms. Please print, sign, and return to the school office or email to Janet Nichols at jnichols@ausdk12.org the following documents by **Friday, September 11th**: Student Emergency Card, Supplemental Emergency form, and Acknowledgment Form. You will only be able to update information in the Parent Portal through **Friday, October 9th**.

AUSD Food Service - FREE MEALS: On Wednesday, September 2, AUSD food service returned to serving **free grab and go meals for all children 18 and under on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays** at the Albany High School multipurpose room, 603 Key Route Blvd. from 11:30 to 1:30. You do not need a barcode. Social distancing measures are in effect. Face coverings are required. Children do not need to be present to pick up food. Please feel free to contact Chef Sabina with any questions. 510-558-2608

Counseling for Students During Remote Instruction: There are ebbs and flows to mental health and well-being, regardless of what era we’re in. Teachers and support staff have always played part counselor in schools and the social emotional well being of your child(s) continues to be a primary importance of ours. If you think your child is in need of counseling and you are unable to provide for this on your own please reach out to Principal Pfohl mpfohl@ausdk12.org or your child's teacher.
Reminder to First Grade Families: Please remember to turn in immunization updates, the health examination form, and the dental form to the Marin School Office, as soon as possible. All children entering 1st grade should have a CHDP health exam form and an Oral Health form on file with us. Thank you!

Marin Playground Use During Remote Learning: This year the playground and yard will be open to Marin families and the public after 2:00 pm on Mondays-Fridays. Many teachers will be using classrooms to teach remotely during the day, so we want to avoid noisy interruptions, especially during live Zoom meetings.

The Marin Newsletter is on our website Please visit our website for important news, dates, and events.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS
Sept 12 Familias Latinas de Albany
Sept 28-Oct 7 Virtual Book Fair
Oct 7 & 8 Photo Days
Oct 7 PTA Meeting 6:30-8:00 pm
Oct 16 Board Holiday, No School for Students
Nov 11 No School - Veterans Day
Nov 25-27 No School - Thanksgiving Break
Dec 21-Jan 1 No School - Winter Break
Jan 18 No School - MLK Jr. Day
Feb 15-19 No School - Mid-Winter Break
Mar 12 No School - Staff Professional Development
Apr 12-16 No School - Spring Break
May 31 No School - Memorial Day
Jun 11 Last day of school