



# Redlands Unified School District

October 28, 2020

Dear RUSD Staff and Families,

The Board of Education and the District believe that in-person/in-class instruction is the optimal learning experience for students. We also believe that our students need face-to-face interaction with their teachers, school support personnel, and their peers, all of which are fundamental in the in-person learning environment.

In order to offer in-person instruction, the District must follow the Governor of California's stages of reopening. Currently, San Bernardino County remains in the most restrictive “purple” tier, which prohibits Redlands Unified from considering a return to an in-person format. Our County must, at minimum, elevate to the “red” tier and remain in that tier for 21 consecutive days in order to return to in-person instruction across the entire District.

## Learning Hubs

The Governor has allowed a provision to local educational agencies to provide organized and supervised care environments known as “Learning Hubs,” to support students on campus while they remain on Distance Learning. Learning Hubs ***are not*** in-person, in-class instruction. Learning Hubs allow staff members to provide supervision to students as they continue to receive instruction through Distance Learning by logging on to the designated virtual platforms (i.e. Zoom, Google Classroom, etc.) with their current teachers and classes. The District will implement the first stages of Learning Hubs for middle school students, based on the highest risk and need and as outlined by State guidelines, Assembly Bill 77 and Senate Bill 98, at our four middle school campuses. These Learning Hubs will include stable cohorts of no more than 16 individuals, with combinations of supervising adults and students. The Learning Hubs program will be voluntary and will operate three days a week – Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday. The schedule of operation for this on-campus support will be made available by the school sites and based on the Distance Learning schedule. All required safety protocols outlined by the State Department of Public Health will be in place. Parents and guardians of designated students will be contacted directly by their schools to extend an invitation to participate in the Learning Hubs program. As we monitor the implementation of the middle school Learning Hubs program and we gain confidence that safety is being met, we will begin to expand the Learning Hubs program to additional grade levels and school sites.

## Current Status

Health officials at both the national and local levels, are consistently expressing concerns regarding the upcoming flu season. In a normal year, the flu season generates many symptoms similar to that

Current Status (Continued)

of COVID-19. This flu season will be no different from years past in terms of the volume of flu cases, which will certainly lead to its own set of challenges. If we were to return to in-person instruction, flu-like symptoms such as fever, cough, runny nose, etc., would likely prevent students and staff from passing the daily health screening as they also mimic COVID-19 symptoms. Failing a health screening would inevitably lead to higher rates of students not being allowed entry to campuses, more students being sent home, and the possibility of students being asked to stay home for 14 days to quarantine. The contact-tracing criterion may also lead to entire cohorts and/or classes being required to quarantine for 14 days, which would be disruptive to the learning environment.

The current rate of COVID-19 within our County continues to rise. San Bernardino County remains in the most restrictive (purple) tier. Even our District boundary, in isolation, remains in purple as are the immediate surrounding districts to us in San Bernardino County.

With the regularly scheduled Thanksgiving and Winter Breaks around the corner and the reasons outlined above, the Board of Education and I believe it is in the best interest of all parties to **remain in Distance Learning through the end of Winter Break at the very least**. This will allow teachers to maintain continuity of instruction and allow all students to complete the first half of their school year with minimal disruptions.

Request to Survey

In preparation for a possible return to in-person instruction sometime in the new calendar year, we are once again surveying our families and staff regarding learning preferences between Distance Learning and in-person instruction. An internal survey will be shared directly with staff members. Back in June, families selected their preference of instruction for their students, but much has changed since then. Please log into your AERIES Portal account and update your preferred learning mode for **each of your children** enrolled in the Redlands Unified School District. You may refer to the Quick Reference Guide included in this message should you need assistance.

Your options will include selecting “DL Only” if you would like your child(ren) on Distance Learning for the remainder of the year **or** selecting “In-Person” if you would like to choose in-person instruction. In-person instruction (depending on COVID-19 data, guidelines and directives) may include some sort of Hybrid model (i.e., half day (am/pm), partial week (2 days in-person, 3 days Distance Learning), week on/week off, etc.). This data will assist the District in updating our in-person plans and schedules.

**We ask that you please complete your preferred learning mode for each of your students by Friday, November 20<sup>th</sup>.**

Conclusion

I want to share my appreciation to all of our teachers, support personnel and site administrators for their continued efforts in supporting our students. I also share my gratitude to our families and

Message to Families

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caregivers. You have made immense sacrifices to support children within your homes. We will continue to work towards implementing and expanding in-person opportunities for our students, beginning with our students with the greatest needs, while keeping safety as the highest of priorities.

Respectfully,

Mauricio V. Arellano

Superintendent of Schools

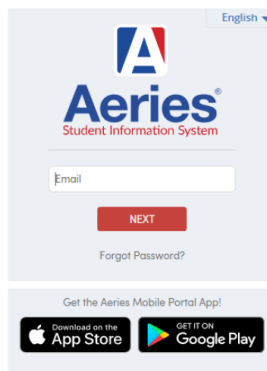


## Quick Reference Guide

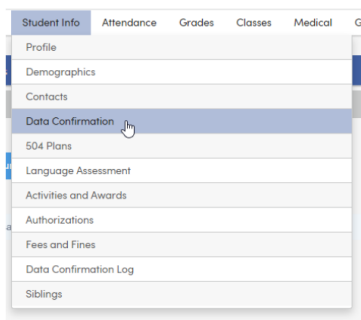
### How to Choose DL or In-Person option in Aeries Parent Portal accounts

- 1) Go to the Aeries Parent Portal login page - <https://redlands.asp.aeries.net/Student/LoginParent.aspx>

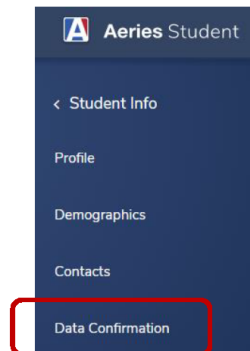
Redlands Unified School District



- 2) When in your account looking at the student you want to pre-register for Distance Learning during the 2020-2021 school year, find "Student Info" in the tabs and click on "Data Confirmation".



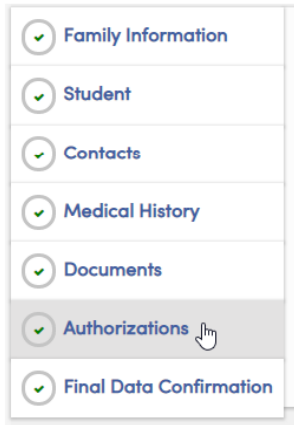
Previous Portal Account Version



Updated Portal Account Version

Student Data Systems - 2020

- 3) In the Data Confirmation page, find and click on “Authorizations”

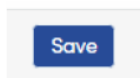


- 4) The “Authorizations and Prohibitions” page will show up. Please find the “Distance Learning or In-Person Instruction” section and click your preference – “DL-Only” or “In-Person”.

Please Grant or Deny the following permissions.

Authorizations and Prohibitions	
Description	Status
<b>Distance Learning or In-Person Instruction</b> Select “DL Only” if you would like your child(ren) on Distance Learning for the remainder of the year or select “In-Person” if you would like to choose In-Person Instruction. In-Person Instruction (depending on COVID 19 data, guidelines and directives) may include some sort of Hybrid model (i.e., half day (am/pm), partial week (2 days in-person, 3 days Distance Learning), week on/week off, etc.). This data will assist the District in making the necessary staffing adjustments and/or student assignments.	<input type="checkbox"/> DL-Only <input type="checkbox"/> In-Person

- 5) Last step is to click “Save” at the bottom of the authorizations list.



- 6) To take you back to the dashboard, click the “Dashboard” tab.

