



Indianapolis Classical Schools 100% Virtual Learning Overview

Released July 24, 2020

On July 22, Indianapolis Classical Schools shared this update:

After receiving the results of our family and staff surveys and reviewing health department and CDC guidelines and local COVID infection trends, the Board and leadership of Indianapolis Classical Schools has made the decision to delay the start of school until **Monday, August 17**.

Additionally, on August 17, instruction for our Herron and Riverside High School students will begin **100% virtually** in order to maintain the highest level of health safety possible. Instruction will remain virtual through Labor Day Weekend, at which time ICS leadership will review updated data and guidance to determine if we can begin the hybrid instruction plan laid out over the summer.

While this is not the reopening we had hoped for, the safety of our scholars and staff remains our priority. We are also confident that making this decision now will enable us to have a robust and effective virtual learning plan for the start of the year. Adjustments are currently being made to our virtual learning model based on the successes and feedback from both last spring and Summer Academy. Families can expect much more information about our virtual school day schedule, which will mimic a typical school day schedule for scholars, in the coming days and weeks.

Information is also forthcoming about virtual New Student Orientation, Family Orientation, and technology and textbook pick-up. We will also be sending out the link for families to register their cohort assignment requests and before/after school supervision requests as nearer the time when we would transition to hybrid so that the information is as accurate as possible.

We are continuing to monitor our athletic offerings and practice schedules. We will communicate further by the end of the week.

Virtual Learning Overview

While Herron and Riverside High Schools are operating on a full virtual model, the school week will follow the same schedule as was set forth for our hybrid plan to accommodate an easy transition when we are able to implement our hybrid schedule.

- Monday - A Day
- Tuesday - B Day
- Wednesday - Office Hours / Independent Work Day
- Thursday - A Day
- Friday - B Day

The daily schedule for 100% virtual instruction will be as follows:

Class	Time
Advisory (Homeroom)	9:00 - 9:15
Passing Period / Break	9:15 - 9:30
A1 or B1	9:30 - 10:45
Passing Period / Break	10:45 - 11:00
A2 or B2	11:00 - 12:15
Lunch	12:15 - 1:15
A3 or B3	1:15 - 2:30
Passing Period / Break	2:30 - 2:45
A4 or B4	2:45 - 4:00

Attendance

In order to best support our students, build classroom relationships, and effectively deliver instruction, students will be required to log in to a live video meeting at the start of each class period on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays.

At the start of each period, teachers will take attendance and will give an overview of the day's tasks for the class which may include:

- Participating in live instruction, discussion, or practice via a video platform (like Zoom or Google Meet)
- Viewing recorded video instruction and completing follow-up activities

- Working independently or in small break-out groups through learning tasks or activities using a range of online platforms like Google Classroom or Edpuzzle

On Wednesdays, students will work independently on assignments for their classes and will have access to teacher Office Hours for additional support.

Virtual Learning Resources

- ICS students who do not have access to a reliable device (laptop or tablet computer) will be issued one. While most virtual learning platforms and tools are accessible via a smartphone, we ask that students complete their work on a computer or tablet for full functionality. A technology request form will be made available, and technology pick-up is tentatively scheduled for August 11 and 12.
- ICS will also partner with families who do not have access to WiFi to provide hotspots.
- Google Classroom will replace Haiku as our virtual classroom platform. Students will receive orientation to Google Classroom at the start of the semester.
- Students will be required to use their school email account to access Google Classroom and other virtual tools. Information about how to access their email will be made available to students at the start of the semester.
- PowerSchool will continue to be our Student Information Management System and is especially useful for tracking attendance and grades.

Grading Update

- In continuing our policy from the spring when we transitioned to virtual learning, students will continue to have the ability to earn a credit with a semester grade of 60% or higher. Students who are pursuing an academic honors diploma will need a 70% or higher to earn a credit toward that diploma per state guidelines.
- Should we transition to a hybrid learning model after Labor Day, we intend to continue with our plan for benchmarks and final exams. Semester grades will be calculated using this formula:
 - Class work / H1 in PowerSchool = 75% of Semester Grade (note that there will be no “mastery” or “practice” categories during virtual learning or hybrid learning; H1 will be calculated using total points)
 - Benchmark / B1 in PowerSchool = 10% of Semester Grade
 - Final Exam / E1 in PowerSchool = 15 % of Semester Grade

*This document will be updated as further plans are solidified.