



Choose Your Elementary Student's Learning Option



Objectives

- Help students feel safe in their learning environment, connected with their teacher and classmates, and confident in their ability to access Alpine School District's Vision for Learning.
- Provide parents with options and flexibility in response to the needs of their child and family.
- Support teachers with resources to help them teach with self-assurance and satisfaction.

Parents Select a Learning Option

Parents, please select one of three learning options and declare that selection in Skyward as a "student information update" from July 23 at 10 a.m. to July 29 at 10:00 a.m. The declaration is made for the first trimester. Changes in a student's learning option will be accommodated at the change of a trimester.

Option 1
Learn at School

My student will attend school in person, face-to-face

Safety precautions that will take place at school are addressed in the Q&A document posted at alpineschools.org/returntolearn

Option 2
Learn Online

My student will attend school remotely, online

Online learning is developed and supported by ASD teachers. Parents choosing Option 2 will be contacted by a school official for details.

Option 3
Learn From a Parent

I prefer to teach my student

Alpine Online K-8 is a home-school option that offers free technology and weekly support from an ASD teacher. See alpineonline.alpineschools.org

Schools Determine Online Formats Available

After all parents have chosen a learning option for their students and teacher circumstances are evaluated, each school will inform you of the online opportunities they can offer under Option 2. These may include the following formats:

Format A: Classroom Teacher Developed and Supported	Format B: District Developed, Classroom Teacher Supported	Format C: Online Teacher Developed and Supported
<p>Students are assigned to a teacher in their neighborhood school.</p> <p><u>The teacher</u> provides a virtual representation of their in-person class to online students through Google Classroom; provides needed interventions for essentials; and assigns grades. In-person teachers may also use, if they choose, district-developed online lessons as offered in Format B.</p>	<p>Students are assigned to a teacher in their neighborhood school.</p> <p><u>The district</u> develops online lessons for essentials in language arts, math, and science that students complete online each day.</p> <p><u>The teacher</u> checks-in with each student once a week; provides basic interventions for essentials; and assigns grades.</p>	<p>Students are assigned to a teacher who teaches an all online class.</p> <p><u>The teacher</u> instructs virtually each day; provides needed interventions for essentials; and assigns grades. Online teachers may also use, if they choose, district-developed online lessons as offered in Format B.</p>

Additional Information for Parents, Teachers, and Principals

Elementary Student Learning Options 2020-21

Elementary School Schedules for 2020-21

Extended Day (M-F)

Early Track

Grades 1-6: 8:00am - 1:15pm

AM Preschool, Kindergarten & OEK Session: 8:00am - 10:15am

PM Preschool, Kindergarten & OEK Session: 11:00am - 1:15pm

Late Track

Grades 1-6: 9:15am - 2:30pm

AM Preschool, Kindergarten & OEK Session: 9:15am - 11:30am

PM Preschool, Kindergarten & OEK Session: 12:15pm - 2:30pm

Traditional (M-F)

Grades 1-6: 9:05am - 2:30pm

AM Preschool, Kindergarten & OEK Session: 9:05am - 11:20am

PM Preschool, Kindergarten & OEK Session: 12:15 pm - 2:30pm

Daily early-out. A one-hour early release time will occur Monday through Friday for the 2020-21 school year. The Monday early-out provides time for teacher collaboration, as usual. The additional four hours per week gives teachers time to support online learning, as well as the needs of in-person students who must be absent for short periods of time due to illness. A daily early release allows for schools to offer a variety of online learning formats, provides for the transportation needs of all students, and limits the time students spend in contact with one another.

Preschool and kindergarten schedules. Most preschool sessions run Tuesday through Friday (some run Monday as well). Preschool start and end times may vary at different schools. Schools determine which times kindergarten is offered.

If one of these options does not fit a family's unique circumstance, parents are invited to visit with a school counselor or administrator. Changes to an option will be accommodated at the change of a trimester.

Option 1

Learn at School

The success of open schools depends on a united commitment to the safety precautions found in the guidelines of the [Return to Learn School Reopening Plan](#). Refer to this plan for more information about precautions that will be implemented to keep students and staff safe. In accordance with current state guidelines and contingent upon approval from the Utah County Health Department, Alpine School District plans to reopen school for in-person learning for all students at the start of the 2020-21 school year.

Revised July 28, 2020

Option 2

Learn Online

After all parents have chosen a Learning Option for their students and teacher circumstances are evaluated, each school will inform parents of the online opportunities they can offer under Option 2. These can vary by grade level and may include the following formats:

Format A: Classroom Teacher Developed and Supported

In Format A, online students are assigned to classroom teachers at their neighborhood schools, with the online students being evenly distributed among the teacher team.

Classroom teachers provide both in-person and online instruction. For example, an upper grade team uses Google Classroom regularly and finds that only about one or two students per class desire to learn online. That team decides to make a virtual representation of their classroom available to online students assigned to their class. This format may appeal if the demand for online learning was low and the familiarity and usage of digital instructional technology by teachers was high. Teachers offering Format A may use, if they choose, district-developed online lessons as offered in Format B to supplement their instruction.

Format B: District Developed and Classroom Teacher Supported

In Format B, online students are also assigned to classroom teachers at their neighborhood schools, with the online students being evenly distributed among the teacher team. Classroom teachers provide in-person instruction, as well as support for online learners. For example, a school has 90 enrolled third grade students and 15 of them opt to learn online. Each third grade teacher in that school has a class of approximately 29 students: 24 opt to learn in person, while 5 learn online. Those teachers provide their normal instruction to the 24 in-person students each day.

At the same time, the 5 online learners work from home on lessons produced by the district. At the end of the day, students will be released an hour early, giving teachers an additional hour each day, four days a week, to support online students with the following:

- Checking to see if students are completing assignments
- Offering feedback on assignments
- Holding an electronic face-to-face meeting once a week (this could take a variety of forms, such as offering interventions for a small grouping of students, talking through assignments with all online learners, etc.)
- Some teachers, if desired, may choose to facilitate additional connections between online and in-person students, such as conducting certain class activities via Google Meeting or recording a lesson and making it accessible to online students, etc.

It must be understood that the primary purpose of the classroom teacher support in Format B is to provide the child with a connection to his/her school, teacher, and

classmates; ensure the child is able to access the material; and provide what interventions the one hour per day, four days a week will allow.

A Note About District-Developed Online Lessons

Grade-level teams--led by district teacher specialists (TSAs) and consisting of instructional and innovative learning coaches--will create online lessons for essentials in language arts, math, and science. These lessons will be made available in Google Classroom.

Students electing to learn online but remain connected to their neighborhood school (Formats B and C) will access and complete learning activities each day with help, as needed, from a parent.

Any teacher--whether they are teaching exclusively in-person learners, exclusively online learners, or a combination of the two--may utilize the district-developed online learning activities. Teachers using this resource will decide if the online content will complement the pacing guide they use or whether they want to align their pacing to the online material; either is fine. Online content will maintain a scope and sequence consistent with standards-based grading expectations for each trimester. It will be shared with teachers district-wide for their reference throughout the year, one week ahead of time.

Format C: Online Teacher Developed and Supported

In some cases, striking a balance between the number of requests for online learning and the need of teachers who are immunocompromised, it may make sense to designate an exclusively online teacher on a certain grade level. This may even occur within a small grouping of schools who desire Format C.

For example, among three neighboring elementary schools, 64 total 5th grade students have requested to learn online. Among the 5th grade teachers from those schools, two are immunocompromised and are therefore assigned a class of 32 students each that they will teach completely online. The remaining 5th grade teachers in the three schools teach full classes of exclusively in-person students.

Some may wonder, under Format C, what if students from neighboring schools are combined into the same online class but their schools use different math curriculum materials? A few different curriculum materials are used throughout the district and students who learn online should not be disadvantaged in their math learning when they return to their neighborhood school. Therefore, online activities will be created that align with ASD's [Vision for Learning Mathematics](#). Teachers and students will be able to use materials and lessons that align with the curriculum program currently used at their school.

Option 3

Learn From a Parent

Some parents may feel the best learning option for their child is to home school them. In this option, parents are responsible for teaching the provided lessons to their children. Alpine School District offers technology and weekly support from an ASD teacher free of charge to those who enroll in Alpine Online K-8. Curriculum that is used is a blend of district-developed

(specifically science 6-8), and commercially-developed resources (such as k12.com, Calvert Learning, Tech Trep, Rosetta Stone, etc.) For more information about this option, see the school's website: alpineonline.alpineschools.org.

Other Considerations for Online Learning

Blend of In-Person and Partial Homeschool or Online

As we have done in the past, parents may request to have their child learn part of the time in person, and part of the time in homeschool (or online). Speak to your school's administrator to request this. Changes to the selected learning option will be accommodated at the change of a trimester.

Specialty Classes

Specialty classes fill a vital role in providing students access to a comprehensive curriculum. They also provide teachers with time to prepare for regular daily instruction. The format specialty classes will take during the 2020-21 school year will be left to the principal and the school leadership team. While they can deliver specialty classes in the way that best meets the needs of their students, they may consider that offering at least one specialty class online would provide access to that class for online learners which they would not have if all specialties were taught in person.

Special Programs

- **Individual Education Plans (IEP) and 504 Plans** - Students with disabilities who are served with an Individual Education Plan (IEP) or a 504 Plan will continue to receive services and supports. IEP Teams and 504 Teams will meet with parents to outline and determine the details of individual plans. Special education is about meeting the needs of the individual student. Our response to each individual student will include various options, in some cases including both online and in-person services as determined by the IEP team. Teams will meet to determine appropriate academic and behavioral support, accommodations and modifications, clarifying where and when specialized instruction warranted through the IEP will take place.
- **Dual Language Immersion (DLI)** - Students currently enrolled in the DLI program will have the option to choose either in-person instruction or online instruction with support from their DLI school. For students who are receiving online instructions, content curriculum will be delivered mostly in English and will utilize district-provided online curriculum. The target language teacher will check in with students weekly and interact in the target language as appropriate for that skill level. Additional language content may be available based on the number of students and school/teacher circumstances. Parents choosing the online option are guaranteed their student will not lose their spot in the DLI program. Gaps in the target language will be addressed with the student returns to in-person instruction. In-person instruction will adapt as appropriate for safety and clearing purposes, but will remain guided by the principle that students spend 50% of the time in the target language.
- **Advanced Learning Lab (ALL)** - Students in the ALL class will choose either in-person instruction or online instruction with their ALL school. Depending on parent requests and teacher circumstance, individual schools will determine and communicate

whether the ALL teacher will provide the entire curriculum for online students or utilize district-created general curriculum with weekly support from the ALL teacher. The online classroom will not mirror the face-to-face ALL classroom in most instances.

- **English learners** - Students learning English as a new language will continue to receive English language acquisition instructional services and support for both in-person and online instruction. The Student Educational Equity Department team (SEE) will work closely with classroom teachers to ensure they have the resources they need to support students' language acquisition and content knowledge development. Each school team in collaboration with the SEE team will determine appropriate accommodations and/or modifications to ensure students access the general education requirements and expectations.
- **Preschool** - Preschool classes will be available either in person or online. Tuition will be adjusted to reflect the shortened day. All special education and related services will be available for those who qualify. Please see our [Preschool Student's Learning Option](#) document for more information.

A Note About Daily Time for Online Learning Under Format B

We have determined optimal amounts of time for online learning according to children's ages. These daily expectations were informed by ASD parent surveys and recommendations from national experts. Each day, students will also be offered a menu of optional activities in case they want or need additional practice.

Kindergarten - Approximately 1 Hour Per Day

- 40 minutes per day of reading and writing
 - 20 minutes per day of math
 - 15 minutes twice a week of science
- Within this schedule, we will hold a live 20-minute online experience once a week

1st-3rd Grades - Approximately 2 Hours Per Day

- 75 minutes per day of reading and writing
 - 35 minutes per day of math
 - 30 minutes twice a week of science
- Within this schedule, we will hold a live 20-minute online experience once a week

4th-6th Grades - Approximately 3 Hours Per Day

- 90 minutes per day of reading and writing
 - 65 minutes per day of math
 - 45 minutes three times a week of science
- Within this schedule, we will hold a live 20-minute online experience once a week

Encouragement for Our Best Year Yet!

Last spring when our school doors closed and learning transitioned to a fully online format, we saw teachers rise to the challenge and perform amazing work! We now face a school year that requires similar flexibility and innovation, understanding that the conditions of the pandemic will determine the learning formats possible, and that adjustments along the way can and will be made. Working together as parents, teachers, and school leaders, we will optimistically rise to meet the unique conditions accompanying the 2020-21 school year! There is no better time for all of us to strive for the competencies outlined in our Vision for Learning. We already know the year will be memorable, so let's make it our best year yet!

