



## **SANTA FE INDIAN SCHOOL**

High School Academics

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### **School Year 20-21, Second Semester Presentation**

#### **High School Parent Questions and Answers**

- ***How is the new schedule going to work for students who are working?***
  - This is going to be a conversation that takes place with the principals and counselor to determine the best plan for the student and family. If your child needs to continue to work: first, we suggest that their work schedule be built around their school schedule. If students are working and were not successful in the asynchronous model, we strongly encourage them to focus on their school work.
- ***Why change now? The students are learning on their own?***
  - The asynchronous model is working well for only about 40% of the students. Then there is the rest of the students who are not successful in the current model and need the additional help. Parents, students, and the community are asking for more structured time with teachers. There is flexibility in the schedule and students will not be online all day.
- ***Are middle school students invited to the student orientation?***
  - Middle School is a separate program from High School and will offer orientation sessions in the evening on January 7th and 8th as listed in the Weekly Newsletter.
- ***What about the students who do not have internet connection?***
  - They will continue to follow the asynchronous plan after a conversation with the principals and counselors. There is also the possibility of dialing-in (calling) to the live sessions to participate and get the additional instructional time with teachers.
- ***When will parents know if their student needs credit recovery?***
  - Grades were finalized Friday, December, 18 at 5:00 pm. If there is an F on your student's report card, your student may need credit recovery, but it is dependent on the course and credits earned thus far. Credit recovery for seniors and some juniors will be offered this second semester and will start a week after the semester starts on January 18, 2020.
- ***How do we know if a 5 year plan is best for a student who is currently struggling?***
  - We want to have a conversation to understand and see if this is a plan the student may need. It could be a family choice. Discussions should start with your child's grade level counselor and a close review of credits. Also, waiting to see how the

child performed in the second semester will help the family and school determine if this is an appropriate plan.

- ***Can English credit recovery be an option in the second semester?***
  - English credit recovery will be provided in the second semester for seniors for the opportunity to graduate on time. For all underclassmen, English credit recovery is best taken in the summer time so that the student is not doubled up in two English courses at one time. We want to ensure student success in the second semester. Taking the time and waiting for the summer school session is the optimal choice.
- ***We know our student is struggling, when do we find out about summer school?***
  - Summer school courses are determined at the end of the school year and are based on student numbers and teacher availability. Grade level counselors will contact parents by phone and mail to inform you of your child's options for summer school at SFIS. There also may be summer school opportunities at your local school district that students can participate in to make-up credits.
- ***What happens if my student is not in SSW (Student Success and Wellness) but in G&T?***
  - All students were given an SSW class for the second semester. Students will be enrolled in a G&T section during the morning periods Monday through Thursday and will also participate in SSW.
- ***If the fall schedule was working for our students, do they have to follow the new schedule?***
  - Yes, students will have to show up twice a week to their virtual classes and complete the asynchronous lessons as assigned. Attending these live sessions will be impactful to student learning. Parents please encourage your students to attend. This is an opportunity to learn, expand on their learning, connect with teachers and peers, and transition into something more like school used to be and will be once again. The class sessions will be small and feel accessible to students. Unless students and families have extenuating circumstances like no internet, all students are expected to participate in this new model and attendance will be taken.
- ***Will the teachers' names be printed on the student's schedule? Will schedules be mailed?***
  - Yes, all teachers' names will be printed on the student schedules. We will mail the schedules to parents, but using the online/mobile NASIS (Native American Student Information System) account for parents is the most immediate way to view your child's schedule, teachers, grades, and attendance. We encourage all parents to use the NASIS portal and get registered on the site.
  - SFIS will be moving to an online registration process this year, online transcript ordering, and possibly online processing of new student applications on the NASIS system.
- ***Any plans to make-up driver's ed or to sign up for this course online?***
  - We don't always include driver's ed as part of our school curriculum, we offer it as it is available. We have received some requests from students for waivers so students can participate online.
  - The academic counselor will be looking into it and providing that information to parents through the newsletter.

- ***Will teachers be reaching out more often?***
  - Students are now expected to show up live with teachers and this will improve teacher and student communication. Teachers are reaching out and are very diligent. We will also be working with the student living staff to help students keep track of their grades and assignments. We want the parents to stay up to date and the students not to fall behind.
- ***About how big will the class sizes be in the second semester?***
  - It will depend on the course. ELA and math courses will have about 6-10 students in a class. Small groups are supportive of instructional learning. Social Studies and Science courses will have approximately 15 students in a class.
- ***Will the school be working with the education departments in the communities?***
  - Yes, we will continue working with the education departments in the communities.
- ***Can students receive textbooks so they can refer back to resources?***
  - Students have access to eTextbooks through the ConnectEd McGrawHill app preloaded on their Chromebooks, online through <https://my.mheducation.com/login>, and through their smartphones by downloading ConnectEd. The ConnectEd app allows students to download chapters at a time, so it will not take up data usage. Through the app and the website, students have the option to highlight the textbook, take notes, easy access to define words, and audio/text to speech features.
  - Many of our textbooks are not aligned to the current hardcopy textbooks we have in the classrooms and many textbooks did not return from last spring and this fall.
- ***Can the teachers record their live lessons?***
  - Teachers will not record the live classroom sessions at this time. We want the live lessons to be more of an interactive session which would require obtaining permission for recording from each parent of each student attending the classes.
- ***Will students need to turn on their cameras?***
  - No, we are not asking students to turn on their cameras due to challenges with connectivity. We can encourage students to turn on their cameras. It is beneficial to their learning and for peer interaction, but we also know that connectivity is still limited for a lot of students and we don't want to create unnecessary stress or technical difficulties.
- ***When will we know if our child attended virtual class or not?***
  - Teachers will enter attendance in NASIS by the end of the day and parents should receive an automated message after 5 PM if their child missed a class.
- ***Can I have more information about the ACT/SAT test dates and waiver.***
  - ACT Information:
    - Test date: February 6, 2021
    - Registration deadline: January 8, 2021
    - Registration website: [my.act.org](http://my.act.org)
    - All SFIS juniors and seniors are eligible for an ACT waiver to cover testing costs. To obtain a waiver and test prep resources, please contact Sunni Costello ([sscostello@sfisonline.org](mailto:sscostello@sfisonline.org) or 505-670-7908) or Gary Toya ([gtoya@sfisonline.org](mailto:gtoya@sfisonline.org) or 505-660-5397).
  - SAT Information:

- Test date: March 13, 2021
- Registration deadline: February 12, 2021
- Registration website: [sat.org/ready](https://sat.org/ready)
- All SFIS seniors are eligible for an SAT waiver to cover testing costs. To obtain a waiver and test prep resources, please contact Sunni Costello ([sscostello@sfisonline.org](mailto:sscostello@sfisonline.org) or 505-670-7908) or Gary Toya ([gtoya@sfisonline.org](mailto:gtoya@sfisonline.org) or 505-660-5397).
- Students whose ACT or SAT test were cancelled can still use their waiver to sign up for a different test date. Testing centers have control of closing their site due to their protocols. If you have questions about your site, please contact Sunni Costello and she will be able to assist you.
- ***Do we have to pay senior fees this year?***
  - Caps and gowns will be purchased by the school for all seniors. Sizes will be collected by Seatha through their senior packet. If you have not completed the senior packet or need to check to see what you are missing you can contact Seatha Pacehco at 505-629-3210.
- ***Will there be buses when they start school again?***
  - In a hybrid model, we do not know what that will look like, but we will have some forms of transportation.
- ***Any details on graduation?***
  - It is difficult to make a determination at this time and we will know more as we get through the first quarter. Senior parent/student meetings will be occurring monthly for updates.