

## Frequently Asked Questions Part II:

### Remote Instruction to Start/In Person When Viable & Leading Edge Virtual School (LEVS)

#### General Topics: Remote Instruction to Start/In Person & LEVS

Topic	Question	Answer
Extracurriculars	If my child does LEVS, would he still be able to participate in after school extracurricular events?	Yes
	If my child does LEVS, would he still be able to participate in after school sports activities?	Yes
Enrollment	I keep hearing “transferring” to virtual learning, is this considered an official transfer out of your enrolled school? Does this mean my child could potentially lose their spot at their school?	Students and families who choose LEVS in the 20/21 school year will be able to return to their home school in the following school year. Residency verification will be completed at the home school.
LEVS and Grading Competency Based Grading	What is the difference in grading? LEVS is Competency based grading? What does this mean? Is this different than A-F? Please elaborate? How will this affect their GPA if this not the traditional A-F? What is the difference in grading between the two?	Each course at LEVS has specific big ideas known as competencies. Each competency is broken down to specific skills and learning targets that are aligned to state standards. Students demonstrate their progress and development in each competency. Students earn a passing grade for the course when they have demonstrated their competency for each subject area. Competency is the ability of a student to apply content knowledge and skills within and across content areas. Students will receive letter grades of an A,B,C,D or F based on the depth of their application.
Testing	How will state testing work for 3rd graders this year?	We are awaiting guidance from the California Department of Education on the status of 2020/2021 school year state testing.
Course Options	Are the classes different in the LEVS model than in the back to physical class option?	Standards and courses mirror traditional sites and are aligned to the adopted state and district standards. The programs differ in how students interact with the coursework. At LEVS students will engage in an interdisciplinary model, learning

		content and skills from multiple subject areas through the study of a singular overarching problem/question.
	Will students be able to do a combination of both online school and regular school or will they have to choose just one?	LEVS is 100% online and students will need to select remote learning offered by the traditional sites or virtual learning offered by LEVS
Start times	Are start times the same for LEVS as for in-person?	The school hours at LEVS mirror the traditional site.

## [Leading Edge Virtual School \(LEVS\)](#)

### ***LEVS: Elementary School***

Topic	Question	Answer
Live Instruction	The time requirements are pretty extensive in the LEVs schedule for online computer time. Is that going to be required everyday?	Engagement in live instruction is required everyday; the LEVS instructional model includes a balance of both computer and non-screen activities.
Grades	Are letter grades assigned for each model (RL vs LEVS)?	Grades and report cards at LEVS will mirror traditional schools

### ***LEVS: Middle & High School Questions***

Topic	Question	Answer
Curriculum & Grading	How will core math, language arts and music be incorporated. Will my student fall behind and perhaps not test well on standardized tests as a result of this method of learning that appears to be more project based and less on standardized learning? Will he be learning the math and language arts curriculum to jump into the traditional model with ease when they are allied to return?	LEVS is an interdisciplinary approach to learning and instruction. All content will be utilized to investigate and develop solutions to real world issues. Since LEVS is a smaller school, we are able to implement individualized learning and provide multiple opportunities for students to demonstrate their knowledge. All curriculum at LEVS is aligned to state and district standards allowing students to transition back to their home school the following year if they so choose.

	What is the purpose of a project portfolio especially in the context of math?	Portfolios serve as a way to artifact evidence of student learning, to identify each student's individual learning progress and to help students reflect on their growth in learning throughout the year.. Evidence of math content and skill development is part of the criteria that will be used to evaluate students' performance resulting in a grade.
	How does competency-based grading affect GPA?	If a student earns AP or H credit for a course and the course is weighted in the UC system, they will receive the weighted credit. For example, AP course work is weighted; if a student earns AP credit through competency based grading then they will receive the weighted credit.
	Where can we obtain more detailed information on the Leading Edge option. Is there a specific curriculum you are following? Is there a syllabus we can review? Are there examples of projects that we can see?	Examples of essential questions that drive projects:: How can we, as ecologists, solve the wild horse problem? How can we, as future city planners, reimagine empty lots as places of importance in our community?, How can we help first responders help hypothermia victims?
	Does a student's portfolio replace assessments for grades? Or is it on top of taking assessments?	Portfolios do not replace formative and summative assessments. Portfolios will help students artifact evidence of their learning.
ASB/Band/Yearbook	For LEVS MS & HS, can students participate in ASB or Yearbook or Band? What are the elective choices for MS and HS? What are the concurrent/dual enrollment course options for HS?	LEVS students may participate in extracurricular activities at their home school; however, they will not be able to enroll in co-curricular classes that take place during the school day at their home school. For SMUSD dual enrollment options please click here: <a href="https://drive.google.com/file/d/1BSBncsFWH-lwLY7Xpu0aMohOLdXfYmzq/view?usp=sharing">https://drive.google.com/file/d/1BSBncsFWH-lwLY7Xpu0aMohOLdXfYmzq/view?usp=sharing</a>  For Palomar College concurrent enrollment options, please click here: <a href="https://www2.palomar.edu/pages/dualenrollment/students/">https://www2.palomar.edu/pages/dualenrollment/students/</a>
Schedule	Is LEVS also on the HS 4x4 and MS 3x3 schedule?	Yes
	Which classes will not be available to LEVS that will be available to the other students?	This will provide an idea of coursework: <a href="https://drive.google.com/file/d/1cM5YxgclM3s8SystsZJoxRk3u9StcLy7aD/view?usp=sharing">https://drive.google.com/file/d/1cM5YxgclM3s8SystsZJoxRk3u9StcLy7aD/view?usp=sharing</a>

PE	Can karate classes be used as a PE substitute in LEVS?	For each course a student takes and passes they will earn both credit and a grade as they do in the traditional site. We will work with each family to develop an independent study PE plan that will incorporate classes such as karate.
Grading	Will AP, Honors and A-G courses still be accepted by colleges under this delivery model?	Yes
	Will final letter grades be issued for LEVS high school students? How does the competency based grading translate into final course grades that will be used to determine GPA for college applications?	Each course at LEVS has specific big ideas known as competencies. Each competency is broken down to specific skills and learning targets that are aligned to state standards. Students demonstrate their progress and development in each competency. Students earn a passing grade for the course when they have demonstrated their competency for each subject area. Competency is the ability of a student to apply content knowledge and skills within and across content areas. Students will receive letter grades of an A,B,C,D or F