

South Tahoe Middle School

Committed to Ensure Learning for All



STMS.LTUSD.ORG

October 9, 2020

Timberwolf News

Hello Timberwolf Families,

We invite your partnership! As we transition to hybrid learning, we invite you at all times to provide your input and feedback. Please reach out by email, phone, or schedule a video conference or visit. If your child needs academic or technical support please contact the office, your child's teachers, or counselor. Additional resources and support are available!

This week's message includes:

- Phase 2 Hybrid update
- Invitation for input and feedback
- Material Pick up Reminder
- Trio ETS tutoring program
- Progress reports and Standards Based Grading Information
- Parent conferences
- Canvas Observer Instructions for Parents
- October Parent Engagement opportunities

Hybrid Learning Update

In line with the LTUSD plan to incrementally transition to hybrid learning, South Tahoe Middle School will open for hybrid learning on November 2. STMS is looking forward to supporting the first day of elementary school hybrid learning by assisting at elementary sites on October 12. South Tahoe Middle School will present information about our Hybrid learning plan at the October 13 LTUSD Board of Trustees meeting. We hope you will be able to attend!

STMS Hybrid at a Glance:

- School hours during Hybrid: 7:45 - 12:15
 - Students enter after 7:15 only
 - Please be ready to pick your child up promptly at 12:15
- STMS students will be placed into two cohorts, A and B
 - A cohort = students with last names A-Le
 - B cohort = students with last names Li-Z
- Schedule: Cohort A attends in person M/T, and cohort B attends in person Th/Fr
- Class meetings will take place at the beginning of every period for all students - students learning from home will attend remotely
- Lessons will be assigned for all days of remote learning

If you prefer not to attend hybrid learning, LTUSD has options. For information about Elevated online school, please email elevated@ltusd.org or call Diana D'Angelo at 541-2850 X1055. If you are interested in ILA, please email ILA@ltusd.org or call Audra Naccarato at 541-2850 x1030.

Invitation for Input and Feedback

We encourage you to contact us with your input and feedback as we work toward a transition to hybrid learning. The hybrid plan developed in August has been shaped by parent, staff, and student input as we get closer to implementation. Please continue to contact us. We value your ideas ~ thank you!

Material Pick Up Times

Please come to campus on Tuesdays from 10-12 or Thursdays from 12-2 for class materials, or technology repair. Staff will be available to help you outside room 15 located facing in the main parking lot.

Trio

TRiO will continue to be at the front of the school the whole month of October, for students that wish to apply, EVERY Wednesday from 3-4pm! Please stop by and fill out an application to receive a free backpack with school supplies once your application is complete. More [here](#).

¡TRiO continuará teniendo una mesa al frente de la escuela durante todo el mes de octubre para los estudiantes que deseen aplicar TODOS los miércoles de 3 a 4 pm! Visítenos y complete una solicitud para recibir una mochila gratis con materias escolares una vez que su solicitud esté completa. Más información [aquí](#).

Progress Reports Standards Based Grading Information

Progress reports will be posted in Aeries during the week of October 12th. The grading period for progress reports ends on Friday October 9th.

Please contact the school if you need assistance accessing the Aeries Parent Portal or if you have any questions about Progress Report Grades.

Standards Based Grading:

Students are graded on a 4 point scale in Standards Based Grading. Similar to widely used tests such as the SAT, ACT, SBAC, AP, etc. that don't use a 100 point scale, Standards Based Grading provides a more accurate grade based on critical concepts, provides relevant feedback, and focuses solely on academic achievement. In using Standards Based Grading, we break away from the traditional percentage scale (90-100=A, 80-89=B, 70-79=C, etc.) and focus on a grading practice that reflects student learning. Please refer to the charts below for a better understanding of the 4 point scale and how it will appear in the gradebook:

4-Point Scale

by Robert Marzano

4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Exceeds the Standard/Skill - students transfer the learning in a more complex, deeper way (equates to an A+ in the gradebook)
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Meets the Standard/Skill - students display a firm grasp of the content - simple and complex (equates to an A- in the gradebook)
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Approaching the Standard/Skill - students demonstrate understanding of simpler content and processes taught in class (equates to a B or C in the gradebook)
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Not at Standard/Skill - With help, student shows a partial understanding of some simpler and more complex skills (equates to a D in the gradebook)

A+	3.75-4.00	93.75	100
A	3.26-3.74	81.5	93.5
A-	3.00-3.25	75.0	81.25
B+	2.84-2.99	71.0	74.75
B	2.67-2.83	66.75	70.75
B-	2.50-2.66	62.5	66.5
C+	2.34-2.49	58.5	62.25
C	2.17-2.33	54.25	58.25
C-	2.00-2.16	50.0	54.0
D+	1.76-1.99	44.0	49.75
D	1.26-1.75	43.75	31.5
D-	1.00-1.25	25.0	31.25
F	Below 1.00	0.0	24.75

Parent Conferences

Parent conference week is October 12-16. Your child's teacher may reach out to you to schedule a video conference if they feel your child will benefit from a meeting. You are also encouraged to contact the school if you would like to schedule a conference with any of your child's teachers. You may reach out directly to teachers or contact the school at (530) 541-6404.

Canvas Observer Instructions for Parents

Please see this [page](#) for links on how to understand and to see what students are working on in Canvas. See [Canvas Observer Instructions](#) for signing up as a parent for Canvas.

Family Engagement Opportunities

English Learner Advisory Committee (ELAC)/Cafecitos: [Cafecitos Calendar Spanish](#)
[Cafecitos October Calendar English](#)

LTUSD Board of Trustees Meeting: Tuesday, October 13, 6:00 pm

PTA

Spread the word with some exciting news. You can now join STMS PTA and other LTUSD schools via the web. Click the link below and sign up for PTA. Your membership will help support your teachers classrooms, projects, supply needs and school.

<https://jointotem.com/ca/south-lake-tahoe/south-tahoe-middle-school-pta>

Kindly,

John Simons

Principal