



Valle Verde Early College High School

National Blue Ribbon School, An Apple Distinguished School, AVID Site of Distinction
A Top American High School, US News & World Report

July 1, 2020

Hello Spartans,

As you may have heard, Ysleta Independent School District is moving to a year-round calendar with two-week intersessions in October and March and an earlier start date. El Paso Community College will be keeping their usual calendar. Due to this mismatch of calendars, Valle Verde Early College HS students will not be able to participate in the intersessions and would potentially be in school for 38 more days than other YISD high school students if we followed the YISD year-round calendar without any modifications.

To avoid such a strenuous schedule, Ysleta ISD and TEA have allowed VVECHS to create an alternate school calendar to accommodate the needs and schedules of our students. In the VVECHS school calendar, there are no intersessions. Some of the other major differences are the following:

August 3 rd :	First day of school for 9 th graders ONLY.
August 7 th :	No School
August 10 th :	All grade levels return to school
December 11 th :	Early release and last day of school for fall semester
May 21 st :	Last day of school for spring semester

Additionally, our summer bridge camp, Project Endeavor, will no longer occur in June. It will now take place the first week of August when only 9th graders are in school. The beginning date in January, spring break and the required summer session dates have NOT changed.

Even though the school year starts early, our longer Christmas break and our earlier ending of the spring semester in May keeps the number of school days for students to approximately the same number as in previous school years. We believe this calendar, which is much closer to the EPCC calendar, will maximize our student's instructional time and provide the best pathway for academic success.

Now that the school calendar is set, the next issue is the school day. You should have received a phone call this Thursday or Friday (July 1st or 2nd) that provided information about what the school week will look like. Families will have two options. Option one is for students to attend school in person; while option two is for the student to stay home and complete their classes virtually. For those who attend school in person, classes will take place at VVECHS from Monday to Thursday. Friday will be a virtual workday from home for all students. For Friday, students must check in and complete any virtual assignments given. If they do not do so, they will be counted absent. For those who choose the virtual method (Option 2), students will be required to check in with all their classes daily. Unlike this past spring, attendance will be taken daily, and we will use the regular grading system. The phone call will have instructions on how to let us know which option you will most likely be choosing for the fall semester. While YISD has two options for our families, EPCC has decided that all of the college classes that our students will be taking will be online this fall. There are no options for EPCC classes.



There are two other school “housekeeping” issues that we do need you to take care of. First, it is essential that you complete your Online Enrollment immediately if you have not done so already. The link for this process is <https://www.yisd.net/enroll>. The second issue is Online Registration. Instead of coming to school in August to register your child as you have done in the past, registration will now be online! You will be able to register your child from the comfort and safety of your home. A link to the new Online Registration system will be sent to the email address you used in the earlier enrollment process. Registration will open on July 14th. Instructional videos and an FAQ to support you will be on our district website beginning July 12th. Online registration must be completed no later than July 24th. While our schools are currently closed, you can call our school or email us if you have any questions or need clarification beginning on July 14th.

For our new Spartans, the class of 2024, remember...school starts for you on August 3rd (either online or virtually depending on your choice). This first week will be for our new freshmen only and will serve as our Project Endeavor (new student orientation). We will be holding virtual meetings for our new students and for our new parents during the week of June 20th. You will receive a letter during the week of July 13th with instructions on how to sign up your child for the new student meeting and how to sign yourself up for the new parent meeting. The meetings will not be more than one hour long depending on the number of questions students/parents may have.

I know this new school year is starting off in a very unfamiliar manner. While it may be similar to the spring, there will be some critical differences. We would all love to get back to our normal manner of schooling, but the safety of students and teachers keeps us from doing so at this time. We will eventually get back to our “new” normal, but for now we ask for your patience as we maneuver through this pandemic. The faculty, staff, and administration are committed to giving your child the best education possible regardless of circumstances. This is the expectation that you have of us and that we have of ourselves. It is the Valle Verde way!

WE ARE SPARTA

Sincerely



Paul Covey, Principal

THE DISTRICT
@HOME
ONLINE LEARNING

