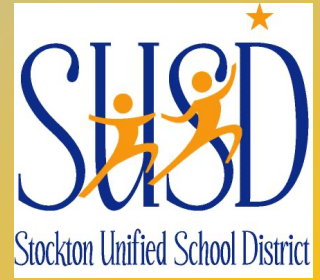




Ask Dr. Rodriguez



Ten Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
Edition #36 2023-24 School Year – Week of May 20, 2024
Questions are quoted as I received them directly from our community.

1. I read your FAQs and message each week. Will you continue to do the FAQs during the summer? Next year?

This will be the last FAQs for this school year as next week we will be busy with promotions and graduations. While I will not complete the weekly FAQs again until the first week of the 2024-2025 school year, I will still be reading and responding to emails and comments made through Let's Talk during the summer.

2. Why are you taking away storage furniture and not providing us with new storage?

The District is not removing any current storage furniture from any classrooms. We are only replacing old desks and chairs with new desks/tables and chairs. If a classroom currently has storage, it will be there when you return.

3. I submitted an interdistrict transfer request. When will I hear about if my son will be at the new school?

Families who have submitted an interdistrict transfer will receive notification by Friday, June 14, 2024 from Admissions and Child Welfare and Attendance Department.

4. Hello, I want to know what the protocol is when a student is found with lice or nits. I have had many cases this year and I was being told that we cannot send students home if they have lice or nits. Parents are given a pamphlet of how to treat it, but this lice situation has been an ongoing thing for the past school year. The students would come to school with lice or nits and spread to other students. Parents have been bringing this to my attention, but I have no answers for them to have this addressed. Thanks.

The SUSD district policy states and follows evidence-based practice supported by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Children found with live head lice shall be referred to the parent for treatment and temporarily excluded from school. Data does not support school exclusion for nits. According to the CDC, head lice usually spread from head-to-head (or hair-to-hair) contact with a person with head lice. Head lice can also spread by sharing combs, hats, clothes, hair clips, scarves, or other personal items that come in contact with a person's head. Head lice are more likely to spread among children during sleepovers, play dates, and family gatherings and are less likely to spread at school.

California Department of Public Health (CDPH) recommends the combination of treatment with lice-killing products and nit combing. Check the hair of everyone in your

household to see if they have head lice. Over-the-counter products and medications prescribed by a doctor are available to treat head lice. Not all products kill nits, and retreatment is often needed 7-10 days after the first treatment, when nits hatch and more head lice are found. Follow the label directions carefully. Only treat people who have head lice. Do not leave the product on for a longer time than recommended – it will not kill lice faster. Each person with head lice needs a complete treatment. Do not split a single box of shampoo between people. Everyone in the home with head lice needs to be treated the same day. Important: Comb the hair in-between treatments to remove nits. Use a metal (not plastic) nit comb that has long teeth – several brands are available at your local pharmacy. Hair should be combed every 2-3 days for two weeks or until nits are no longer found. The goal is to remove any nits that can hatch new lice. It is easier to comb wet hair that has been parted into small sections. Each section of hair should be combed from root to tip. If lice or nits are found, wipe or rinse the comb before using it again. Sometimes it may seem that the treatment used has failed when actually: 1) the substance on the hair shaft was misidentified as nits (i.e., dandruff, styling products, etc.), 2) treatment instructions were not properly followed, or 3) re-infestation with head lice has occurred.

According to American Academy of Pediatrics, “Screening for nits alone is not an accurate way of predicting which children or adolescents are or will become infested, and screening for head lice has not been proven to have a significant effect on the incidence of head lice in a school community over time” (Nolt et al., 2022 p.10). “Because of the lack of evidence of efficacy, routine classroom or school wide screening should be discouraged”(Nolt et al., 2022 p.10). Therefore, we do not conduct lice screening on a regular basis.

5. My students’ chromebooks are breaking. Are you going to purchase more for next year? We really need them.

The District did purchase more Chromebooks; 6,000 in December and 10,000 this summer. The 6,000 Chromebooks did arrive and District technology, purchasing and library staff have distributed Chromebooks to the sites around March for testing and use and plan to implement a 2 devices per 1 student (2:1) program in the upcoming school year; that is 1 Chromebook in the classroom and 1 to stay home. The 10,000 Chromebooks have not arrived but are slotted for the 2:1 implementation plan. District technology staff will start this plan at the 9th grade level and the Chromebook at home will stay with the student for the remainder of their high school years. If the student leaves the District before their graduation, they will return the Chromebook back to their school site. If the student graduates from one of our high schools, the student or his/her parent can pay \$1 to keep their Chromebook. Remaining Chromebooks not used for the 2:1 plan will be distributed evenly to the other school sites to refresh broken or older Chromebooks.

6. What grades are expected of students?

To prepare students for a variety of post-secondary goals, including entering the workforce, attending a University of California (UC) school, or pursuing other educational paths, it is essential to focus on both academic performance and the individual needs of students and their families. Schools and families should work together to meet the individual needs of each student, ensuring they have the support necessary to achieve their potential and be well-prepared for

various post-secondary opportunities or a career with a livable wage, community involvement, and life.

We recognize and support the unique needs of each student and their family. This means offering personalized guidance and resources to help students achieve their academic and personal goals, considering factors like extracurricular commitments, work responsibilities, and personal challenges. Tailored support ensures that all students can pursue their desired paths, whether that includes higher education, immediate employment, or other opportunities. We also encourage students to engage in extracurricular activities, leadership roles, and community service. These non-graded experiences not only enhance college applications but also prepare students for community involvement and civic responsibility. Participation in these activities fosters skills such as teamwork, leadership, and social awareness, which are valuable in any post-secondary pathway and in life.

If the student wishes to attend a UC, they should consider the rigor of the courses taken in senior year and the grades earned in those courses when evaluating applicants. Therefore, maintaining a solid academic record throughout high school is crucial. Students should strive to maintain satisfactory grades, typically an unweighted B average or better. UCs look for consistent performance across all subjects, with no non-passing grades. This demonstrates a strong academic foundation and a readiness for college-level work. Such a standard also positions students well for a variety of post-secondary options, including vocational training and other universities.

7. I am part of the organization Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America. Will SUSD be part of our event on June 1st?

Our Department of Public Safety will participate again this year at the event at Victory Park on June 1, 2024 from 11am-2pm. We hope that our students, staff, and families will wear orange and come out to visit with us and other community organizations to learn more.

join us for
wear orange
Day in the Park

what
A family-friendly gathering at Victory Park to honor victims and survivors. As we work together to end gun violence in Stockton and beyond. Join us to grab some Moms Demand Action swag, meet some community partners, have some fun, and learn how you can be part of this movement.

when
Saturday June 1, 2024 11am-2pm

where
Victory Park, 1001 N Pershing Ave, Stockton CA 95203

RSVP
Snap the QR Code or text ORANGE to 644-33



8. My daughter really liked the items she received last year. Are you providing summer backpacks again for students?

The Extended Learning Opportunity Program (ELOP) Department and Curriculum Department worked closely together to ensure all of our SUSD students grades TK – 11 will have backpacks filled with books and materials to take home and read over the summer. The backpacks include distinct books from Teacher Created Materials (TCM) for each grade level as shown below.



9. I am a 2012 graduate and I am going to start college that requires all of my previous transcripts. How do I go about getting an official transcript sent to them?

As a student who graduated before the 2022-2023 school year, please click the link below to go to the SUSD Student Records Department homepage to complete a request form at <https://www.stocktonusd.net/StudentRecords>, call 209 933-7020 ext. 2290 or email cwarequest@stocktonusd.net

10. What is the fastest way to contact the Transportation Department when I have a question about my child's route?

You can call the Transportation Department directly at (209) 933-7145 ext 2668 or you can reach staff through the Let's Talk application found at <https://www.stocktonusd.net/Domain/158>