

Hsk Dr. Rodriguez



Ten Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
Edition #5 2023-24 School Year – Week of September 11, 2023
Questions are quoted as I received them directly from our community.

1. If the district is receiving a very substantial amount of ELOP funding, why are ELOP Programs receiving low budget amounts to support school site needs and supplies? Program sites will currently be given a budget of \$1000 for after school program activities/supplies and another \$500 will be allotted for supplies needed by teacher-led interventions after school. I understand a need for some oversight on what gets ordered but that type of budget seems low for supporting the needs of our students. Despite the estimated amounts for 41 school sites, those amounts will not make a dent to the millions that ELOP funding is providing to the district.

The ELOP department is student centered and believes it is imperative to provide our programs and staff with the necessary materials, supplies, and equipment needed to lead a safe, supportive, and enriching program for our SUSD students.

Over half a million dollars was allocated and spent for our ELOP programs last school year, averaging \$12,000 per school site. For many sites, this created surplus inventory. This allocation included teacher-led materials and supplies.

With last year's surplus inventory, we have encouraged our teachers to check in with their ELOP Program Facilitator to see what they already have onsite to share with their students.

The ELOP department must ensure that materials do not supplant the school day and are used during ELOP hours and days only. With that said, each school site is responsible for submitting a program plan, showing each teacher's individual curriculum and/ or program they are leading with their students. Their supplies and materials should align with their proposal.

If in fact there is a need beyond what has been allocated, the ELOP Department has and will consider additional material requests that aligns with their school site proposal on a case-by-case basis.

In addition to allocating funds to all sites throughout the school year, the ELOP Department is planning to roll out new programs, curriculum, equipment, and fieldtrips district wide. This is to ensure all students in ELOP have a safe, fun, and enriching experience.

2. At the Board Meeting, I heard you are charging \$280 to students for lost Chromebooks. Is this true?

Currently, SUSD is undergoing a complete inventory process of Chromebooks. SUSD has not inventoried our Chromebook devices in many years. This practice cannot continue due to

the use of public funds. Moving forward, all devices will be inventoried in Destiny. This is essential as we are developing our ongoing multi-year replenishment plan. This will ensure that our students continue to have 1-1 device access for years to come, as well as 24/7 learning.

We are inventorying a continuum of Chromebook types, including age, purchase funding source, etc. During this inventory process, we have not implemented a charge for loss of student Chromebook devices at all. We have paused on past practices. This has been communicated to sites through our team. After reviewing what we have through this process, will enable us to reset our practices and provide clear communication to sites in regard to our new Chromebook purchase, use and replacement policy.

3. Who is responsible for the safety of students at Unity Park? There is a lot of activity there and does not seem safe.

Unity Park is near the Chavez High School campus but not part of the campus and therefore under jurisdiction of the City of Stockton and Stockton Police Department. SUSD Department of Public Safety works in collaboration with Stockton Police Department to safeguard students going to and from school.

SUSD has a Department of Public Safety Police Officer at each high school. Chavez High School has an officer and 9 Campus Security Monitors. Officers and staff are at Unity Park as much as possible. We remain committed to providing a safe and nurturing learning environment for all of our students.

4. Hello, I was wondering what elementary schools in the district have classes for children that are doing ESL? thank you so much!

All of our elementary schools within the district offer classes for children who are English Language Learners (ELLs) and provide English Language Development (ELD) as required by the State. This means that every elementary school in our district has programs and resources in place to support children who are learning English as a second language. We are committed to helping all students achieve proficiency in English and to providing the necessary support to facilitate their language development.

If you have any further questions or require additional information about specific programs or resources available at any of our elementary schools, please feel free to reach out to the individual schools or our district's administration office. We're here to assist you in any way we can.

5. Is it possible to talk with the SUSD police in reference to the safety plan when Edison High School kids get dropped off at school? On center street, the parents come to a complete stop to let their kids out. It's only a matter of time before a vehicle behind hits the car and the child. Are there any safety/traffic signs that say "you cannot stop in the middle of traffic." Or can officers get assigned to work the traffic in the mornings and after school? It's a matter of time before there's an accident.

Yes, you can reach out to the Department of Public Safety (DPS) at 209-933-7085. Coming to a complete stop in the middle of a roadway is against the law and does create significant safety concerns for our students. Edison High School, as well as our three other comprehensive high schools, have a School Resource Officer assigned who address safety concerns as well as conduct traffic. We will forward this information to them so an

assessment can be done as part of the DPS traffic safety plan to determine the best approach to addresses the unique traffic concerns. The traffic safety plan addresses traffic safety through education, engineering, and enforcement.

6. I am wondering if it's possible for me to be eligible to graduate early?

SUSD students can graduate early. A 12th grader that would like to graduate in December or an 11th grader that would like to graduate at the end of their 11th grade year must submit a request to graduate early by October 15th of the school year in which they plan to graduate. Students and parents work with their school counselor on this process to ensure all graduation requirements will be met. In some cases, early graduation may impact a student's ability to meet the A-G requirements for university admission. The early graduation forms are located on the District website or by reaching out to your counselor.

7. Can we get new music equipment in the high schools please?

Using ESSER funds back in 2021-2022, we purchased approximately \$900,000 of instruments for our comprehensive high school music programs. Due to the volume of instruments we purchased, it took a while for all of the instruments to be delivered. Last December when the 120 member SUSD High School Marching Band, which is comprised of students from all four high schools, participated in the "Festival of Lights" Parade down in Palm Springs, CA, those new instruments were proudly on display for the viewing TV audience. This first order of instruments was just the beginning, using ESSER II and III funds, more instruments are on their way not only for our high schools but the elementary music programs. In addition, we are currently working on a plan for the investment of the Arts, Music, Block Grant which will allow us to provide much needed updates regarding equipment to all of our Music, Dance, Theater, Visual and Media Arts programs.

Another exciting purchase has been new marching band uniforms for each comprehensive high school. During the upcoming Fall 2023 marching season, all four of our high school bands will be traveling and competing in band competitions across the Northern CA area with new instruments and uniforms. The competition we are most excited about is the "Lincoln Review of Champions". This event will be held at Lincoln High School in Stockton on November 18, 2023. We are excited because this will be the first time in almost two decades that all four SUSD Marching Bands will be participating. Please come and support them!

8. Thank you for this platform! I am wondering how we can alleviate the cost of bussing for field trips for schools? The prices on charters keep going up and it is getting harder to book busses. Can we work out an agreement of some sort to keep field trips a part of the educational experience for our students?

We are dedicated to continuing to support sites with academic as well as enrichment field trips. In an effort to mitigate the increasing costs of having to use charter buses due to the limited resources of the Transportation Department, we will be communicating our new cost structure for field trips that cannot be handled through our Transportation Department within the next month. Additionally, we are excited to be implementing an Attendance Incentive to promote consistent attendance within the Transportation Department to ensure adequate coverage of our routes and be able to allocate resources to accommodate more field trips with our own staff.

9. Hi, I was trying to get a hold of someone in your district who teaches adapted physical education. I am curious to know if your high schools offer modified PE to students, or only general physical education.

We have three Adaptive PE Teachers (APE) who provide instruction and consultation to teachers for our students with special needs, sharing recommendations around accommodations and modifications to individualize a student's program to meet their unique needs. Our High Schools do provide modified PE to students in alignment with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) and/or a 504 plan. Our teachers work together on supporting all students in a variety of different ways and work closely in collaboration around those systems of support. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out directly to Angela Dunne, Special Education Program Specialist who oversees Adaptive PE.

10. I am teacher and I need my scores from iReady. Where can I find them?

Teachers log into Class Link (https://launchpad.classlink.com/stocktonusd). Class link will take teachers to the apps screen. From the apps screen teachers can log into i-Ready portal directly.



