

August 6, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The California Legislature passed AB 130, which changed the requirements and qualifications for independent study. For the 2021-2022 school year only, schools shall make independent study available as an option for TK-12th grade students whose health would be put at risk by in-person instruction. A student with an individualized education program (IEP) may only participate in independent study if their IEP provides for it (Education Code 51745(c)).

Independent study can be a suitable option for some students, however it may not be right for every student. Independent study requires motivation and a strong commitment on the part of the student and parent/guardian. Most students with moderate/severe disabilities are better served in an educational setting that is classroom-based, with small group/individualized instruction, and access to necessary materials and support personnel to assist with the learning process. Rest assured, YCOE sites will continue to follow all health and safety procedures and protocols, in order to provide the healthiest educational environment possible for your child and our YCOE team.

Independent study is not the same as distance learning. For the most part, a student on independent study will learn independently, without teacher instruction. Per AB 130, for TK-8th grade, there will be significantly less live interaction and synchronous learning and for grades 9-12, no live interaction and significantly less synchronous learning. IEP-related services will, for the most part, be provided on school campus only, whether or not your student is enrolled in independent study. Again, if your child has an IEP, they may only participate in independent studies if their IEP provides for it.

Because AB 130 independent study is by request only, please complete the AB 130 request form found on the YCOE website at www.yubacoe.org. You may also request the AB 130 form from your child's principal. Once the AB 130 request form is completed, please submit it to your child's principal and you will receive an IEP meeting notice, with a scheduled date and time, to review your request. At the meeting, the IEP team will review the current offer of a free and appropriate public education (FAPE), compared to an independent study program. Please contact your child's principal if you would have further questions regarding AB 130 independent study.

Thank you for your ongoing partnership with YCOE and the opportunity to provide support and service for your child and family.

Sincerely,



Leslie Cena

Assistant Superintendent, Special Education