

## **Intercession Week Explained**

#### What is Intercession Week?

San Antonio ISD was very proactive early this summer when they developed the 2020-2021 Instructional Calendar with ways to help students be successful because SAISD leadership understood that even though many students finished off last year with grades of "A's" or "B's", the learning that took place from March until June, was in no way equal to the traditional learning that had taken place prior to Spring Break when COVID began to spread. The learning that was taking place during the latter months of the school year, lead to what is known as the "COVID slide", meaning many students were not receiving the full instruction that was evidently taking place prior.

Because of this, and in a proactive manner, SAISD included in the 2020-2021 Instructional Calendar what is known as Intercession Weeks (two of them). The first Intercession Week is January 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>, which is coming up after the Winter Break, and the second Intercession Week will take place March 15-19, 2021, after Spring Break. Intercession Weeks should in no way, shape or form, be considered punitive or a form of punishment for students that are struggling or need additional time to complete work but should instead be seen from the mindset of a great opportunity to come and receive one-on-one instruction during structured time to complete work. This is (hopefully) a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to catch up on work and protect your GPA! What a great time to do this, since this has never been offered in the past during any month other than as a summer school program, which by then is too late to rectify any grades. Students of course are in no way obligated to attend; however, this is an opportunity for them to complete their work during this time and the choice to participate is ultimately theirs and their parents'.

It is important to mention that even though CAST Med High School provided both virtual and in-person tutorials each week, Monday through Thursday after school (over 70 sessions!), many students did not take advantage of them. Once again, CAST Med is working to help all students be successful their first semester, since grades for first semester will be finalized the Monday, AFTER Intercession Week. Therefore, it is important that students recommended to attend, do attend.

### Who will participate?

For Intercession Week taking place January 4-8, 2021, students that will participate have already received an email informing them of their need to participate. Students who only need a few points to earn credit for a course, will participate virtually (from home), and those that need more intervention and instruction, are asked to come for inperson instruction. There are some special cases that do not follow this plan, so it is important to note that all cases are unique. Students should check their school emails with information pertaining to them specifically. Students learning virtually, will be provided ZOOM links to access their teachers, on the first day of class, January 4<sup>th</sup>, via REMIND 101.

### What are the dates and times?

For Intercession Week taking place January 4-8, 2021, the times are 8:15-4:00PM, whether they are learning virtually or in-person at school. Wednesday, January 6, only some 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Students will come into the building to take their TSI Exam, an exam required for enrolling in college classes. ALL other students will learn virtually from home on that day. More specific information will be provided to students on Tuesday, January 5<sup>th</sup>.



Is breakfast and lunch provided? Yes, both breakfast and lunch are provided for those participating in in-person instruction.

Is transportation provided? Yes, transportation is provided in the same manner that we provide transportation throughout the regular school year, from the nearest SAISD high school.

More questions? If you have any questions, please call the school on Monday, January 4, 2021. (210)228-3380.

# **Important Links:**

- Prescription for Success
- CAST Med High School Parent Compact 2020-2021
- How to Calculate Your Grades
- 2020-2021 Teachers' Office Hours (Tutorials)
- SAISD Attendance Information
- <u>Transportation Route Information</u>
- Parents' Guide to their Student's Grades
- SAISD Parent Portal Information (Frontline)
- CAST Med High School Website
- CAST Med High School Website Calendar of Events