



Independent Study Program 2021-22

Dear Thermalito Students, Parents and Guardians:

In the recently adopted 2021-22 state budget the state changed a variety of legal requirements for distance learning and independent study. Distance learning will not be an option for students in 2021-22. Instead, for any Thermalito students who do not want to return to in-person instruction, Independent Study (IS) will be available. New requirements of IS include the following:

- The IS teacher will hold an intake meeting with the parent/guardian and the student to review the requirements for the IS program. This requires a parent and student signature agreeing to the terms of the program.
- Students will meet with the IS teacher weekly to review the course of study.
- Lesson plans will be developed by the IS teacher, and student work can be provided in a digital format, all paper packet form (using textbooks and online support), or a hybrid model that involves some packet and some digital resources.
- Some synchronous instruction and/or live interaction will be a new program requirement for 2021-22. The amount required will depend on grade level.
- After three missed assignments an evaluation will be made to determine whether IS is the appropriate educational program for your student.
- If a student is not successful in IS the only Thermalito program option is a return to the student's home school within the district.

The district is currently in the process of updating board and school policies to include these new state requirements. Updated policy information will be available as soon as it is approved by the school board.

We thank you for your interest in your child's education and we will continue to support your needs within TUESD. If you have further questions you may contact Independent Study Principal Jeff Kuhn at (530) 538-2940 or Independent Study Teacher, Ms. Enriquez at (530) 534-7843.