



March 13, 2020

Dear Parents and Families,

We are working with LAUSD and effective, Monday March 16, school will be closed for the next two weeks while we evaluate the appropriate path forward. During this time students will be able to continue their learning through google classrooms and we will work with families to ensure that they access to computers while at home. We will reschedule parent conferences when we return.

Additionally, we want to make sure that you have access to free wi-fi from Charter Spectrum. Beginning, Monday, March 16, Charter commits to the following for 60 days: Charter will offer free Spectrum broadband and Wi-Fi access for 60 days to households with K-12 and/or college students who do not already have a Spectrum broadband subscription and at any service level up to 100 Mbps. To enroll call [1-844-488-8395](tel:1-844-488-8395). Installation fees will be waived for new student households.

Charter will partner with school districts to ensure local communities are aware of these tools to help students learn remotely. Charter will continue to offer Spectrum Internet Assist, high-speed broadband program to eligible low-income households delivering speeds of 30 Mbps.

Charter will open its Wi-Fi hotspots across our footprint for public use. Spectrum does not have data caps or hidden fees.

As the country works collaboratively to contain this pandemic, broadband internet access will be increasingly essential to ensuring that people across the country are able to learn and work remotely, that businesses can continue to serve customers, and that Americans stay connected and engaged with family and friends.

Please stay safe until we return!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Yvette King-Berg".

Yvette King-Berg  
Executive Director



March 23, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians:

On Friday, U. S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos announced that students impacted by school closures due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic can bypass standardized testing for the 2019-2020 school year. California Governor Gavin Newsom had requested a waiver seeking to cancel the exams in California and the federal announcement now allows California testing to be waived.

With the federal announcement, California will join other states across the nation and NOT administer state tests to students in grades 5-8 and 11 as required to meet federal requirements. Additionally, I wish I could tell you it will all be back to normal sometime soon but it does not look like that will be the case.

**YPICS schools will remain closed through May 1st** and we will provide additional updates well before May 1st on next steps. Please continue to encourage your children to participate in the YPICS Distance Learning Program with teachers and to focus on learning. Our Teachers have been providing daily instruction since the first day of closure and they will continue to do so until we can return to the building. Students will have a real break soon, April 5-13th. However, right now we need all students learning everyday and participating with their teachers. We appreciate your ongoing support during this time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Yvette King-Berg".

Yvette King-Berg  
Executive Director



March 30, 2020

**Re: COVID-19: Parent Notification YPICs Distance Learning Plan Expectations**

Dear Parents,

On Tuesday, March 16, 2020, YPICs officially began its' Distance Learning Program. By now you should have been contacted and communicated with through our Remind System and through individual phone calls three times regarding the program. We are all learning as we go and we will continue to update you as we receive guidance from the CDE and the federal government about policies and procedures that need to be added during this time. The purpose of this letter is to notify you and set clear expectations.

Because of school closure, we are moving to provide educational support and services online via Google Classroom, Zoom, Google Meet, and a variety of other programs we currently use, as well as telephonically. In order to ensure safety, class meet sessions will be held with at least three people most of the time. In most cases the class meet sessions will have the teacher, an additional support personnel, and students. We will follow the same safety, civility, and professional guidelines used when school is in regular session. Additionally, we will tape all class meet sessions. Recordings will never be shared with the public, these are for YPICs safety reasons only. The focus will be on the teacher, however, as students respond to questions and participate in class their images may be captured on film. If you prefer not to have your child taped, simply direct your child to join the meet without using the web cam feature. Administrators will still monitor class meets sessions as they would a regular classroom visit.

The high school schedule has not changed and it is our expectation your child daily join class meet sessions using the same schedule before the closure. Projects and class assignments will continue to be assigned to meet the criteria for scholars to receive a high school diploma and graduate college ready. The middle school schedules have changed and each school's schedule has been provided to you through Remind. It is also available on the school's website. We continue to expect to see your children daily and for all courses assigned for the day.

When YPICs scholars are absent you will receive calls to remind you both of our new schedules and to inquire what more can we do to support during this time. Our goal is to provide social emotional support by having our schools retain schedules and to have clear programming so that your children can receive the best instructional programs possible during these circumstances.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Yvette King-Berg".

Yvette King-Berg  
Executive Director



March 31, 2020

Dear Parent,

In accordance with the provision 34 of Federal Regulations section 300.503, this letter serves as written notice of proposed actions by YPI Charter Schools (YPICS) with regard to your child's educational program because of the school closure due to the COVID-19 virus.

### **Placement and Services**

Your child has an IEP, which indicates that he/she receives classroom-based special education services. Because of the school closure, we are moving to provide educational support and services online via Google Classroom, Zoom, Google Meet, and a variety of other programs, as well as telephonically. During the last two weeks, all providers have reached out to students with special needs to determine how to best support and provide services remotely. This is a change of placement from in-person services to digital learning based on the state mandate to shelter in place and close schools. In addition, special education providers will be providing services to the extent feasible including but not limited to consultation with general education teachers, online services, telephonic services, and individualized home activities. Behavior intervention will not be provided during school closure. This placement and services will only be in effect during the school closure. Your child's IEP placement and services will resume as defined by his/her current IEP as soon as school reopens.

### **Assessments**

The guidance from the US Department of Education Office of Civil Rights permits a delay in assessments to the extent observation or face-to-face contact is required. Because all of YPICS' assessments require observations and face-to-face contact, all assessment timelines are tolled including but not limited to initial, triennial and re-evaluation assessments during the school closure. In some cases, we will hold Record Reviews in place of triennial evaluations with parent consent and signatures.

### **IEP Meetings**

IEP meetings will be held virtually or telephonically unless you, as the parent, waives the timeline and requests for an in-person IEP meeting once school resumes. Triennial IEP meetings will be held unless assessments are necessary to develop the IEP, in which case it will be reconvened after the completion of the evaluation once school resumes. Triennial IEP meetings will entail student record reviews.

### **Initial or Re-evaluation IEPs**

If your child does not have a current IEP and was in an evaluation process prior to the school closure, supports will be provided for your child under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.



**Procedural Safeguards**

Please be advised that the parents of a child with a disability and students who have reached age 18 have protection under the procedural safeguards of 34 Code of Federal Regulations Section 300.503. In that regard, enclosed please find a copy of your safeguards. If you would like help in understanding the procedural safeguards, the following sources are available:

California Department of Education  
P.O. Box 944272  
Sacramento, CA 94244-2720  
<http://www.cde.ca.gov.spbranch/sed>

Office of Administrative Hearings  
Attention: Special Education Division  
2349 Gateway Oaks Drive, Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95833-4231

Based on our conversations with you, your technology needs are being met or have been met. Please communicate if you have further technology needs.

This transition is challenging, and we will need strong communication to ensure continuity of support and services for your child. We encourage you to stay in close contact with your school including your child's teachers, educational specialists, other special education providers, and myself, the Director of Special Education.

Sincerely,  
Vashon Nutt

Special Education Contacts Information:  
Director of Special Education, Vashon Nutt [vnutt@ypics.org](mailto:vnutt@ypics.org) (818)578-9912

**Bert Corona Charter School**

Executive Administrator, Ruben Dueñas [mrduenas@coronacharter.org](mailto:mrduenas@coronacharter.org) 818-270-1340  
Lead RSP, Sherri Preston [mspreston@coronacharter.org](mailto:mspreston@coronacharter.org) (818)515-0789  
RSP, Hector Rosas-Torres [mrrosas@coronacharter.org](mailto:mrrosas@coronacharter.org) (818)220-0166  
RSP, Oscar Rodriguez [mrodriguez@coronacharter.org](mailto:mrodriguez@coronacharter.org) (818) 689-0164

**Bert Corona Charter High School**

Executive Administrator, Larry Simonsen [mrsimonsen@lausd.net](mailto:mrsimonsen@lausd.net) (626) 485-2625  
Lead RSP, Maria Castaneda [mscastaneda@coronacharter.org](mailto:mscastaneda@coronacharter.org) (818) 814-6439

**Monseñor Oscar Romero Charter School**

Executive Administrator, Rene Quon [mrquon@romerocharter.org](mailto:mrquon@romerocharter.org) (323) 578-2226  
Lead RSP, Lorenzo Garcia [mrlgarcia@romerocharter.org](mailto:mrlgarcia@romerocharter.org) (323) 273-2265  
RSP, Richard Sema [mrsema@romerocharter.org](mailto:mrsema@romerocharter.org) (310) 977-2405



April 3, 2020

Dear YPICS Families,

Based on the health data available and Governor Newsom and State Superintendent Thurmond statements, YPICS is choosing to **close our physical school campuses through the end of the year**. We do not make this decision lightly. Staff, students, and our families' safety must be our top priority. If the current pandemic health data changes, YPICS will reconsider this decision. On March 16, 2020, our schools' doors closed, and our distance learning program began. Teachers are delivering online instruction using Google Suite Applications and other tools. Our support staff has been calling home to provide support to our students and families. Even though our **Physical Campuses are Closed our Schools are Open for Learning**. Superintendent Thurmond said, "This in no way suggests that school is over for the year, but rather we should put all efforts into strengthening our delivery of education through distance learning."

**Student Expectations:** Learning continues and will continue until we return to our physical school campuses. We will make it through these tough times. **Our scholars need to continue to learn and grow**. We need you to show up to your sessions daily and be ready to learn. Your education is still a priority. Do not fall behind! Even though our buildings are closed, school is still very much in session! Lessons, grades, assessments, and report cards are all continuing on. Stay focused on being college ready, an active citizen, and life-long learner.

**Parent Expectations:** Parents, please communicate with our schools about your families' needs. Our school staff will support in any way we can. It is imperative that you encourage your student(s) with love and patience to continue to learn with us and engage in our online learning opportunities. We understand that our community is facing many challenges. Learning must continue to be a top priority for our children in addition to their physical, and social emotional well being.

**Communication:** Students have school emails and Google Classroom to communicate with teachers and staff. Staff is sending messages to families on Remind. Our school phone lines are still open and working:

Monseñor Oscar Romero Charter School	Bert Corona Charter School	Bert Corona Charter High School
213-413-9600	818-834-5805	818-480-6810

You can also find more information about our schools on our social media pages.



[facebook.com/ypicsla](https://facebook.com/ypicsla)



[twitter.com/ypicsla](https://twitter.com/ypicsla)



[instagram.com/ypicsla](https://instagram.com/ypicsla)

**Spring Break** begins on Monday, April 6 and ends on Monday, April 13. There will be no online instruction during Spring Break. Distance learning will resume on Tuesday, April 14th. Spring break will be a great time for students to catch up on work that they have not completed.

**Food Centers**

All Grab-and-Go food centers will continue to be open during Spring Break.

**Student Activities**

Our school communities will plan culmination/graduation ceremonies for our scholars virtually or in person when it is safe to do so. We are also exploring opportunities for you to interact socially like spirit days and dances.

**Conclusion**

YPICS represents the best in public education. Some schools have closed without providing educational activities for students. YPICS has done better. We will not lower our standards. Our scholars will keep learning and we will provide structured education up to the end of the school year. We will do our patriotic duty to serve the community while working under the safest conditions possible. We are proud of the work that our administrators, teachers, staff have provided to your children during this crisis. We are better together!

Warm Regards,

  
Yvette King-Berg

Executive Director

April 16, 2020



**Re: COVID-19: YPICS Grading Policy Reminder**

Dear Parents,

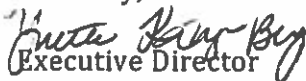
On Monday, April 13, 2020, LAUSD Superintendent Austin Beutner announced, “No students will receive failing grades on their spring report cards, taking an assertive step on student assessment decisions confronting school systems across California.

LAUSD is a large school district with a separate board and Superintendent of Schools. YPI Charter Schools (YPICS) are completely operated by an independent School Board and Executive Director/Superintendent. The district’s current school program was predominantly text-book-based and has a small percentage of students with access to both equipment and Wi-Fi access. At best LAUSD will complete the year with conducting 6-7 weeks of instruction after the COVID-19 closures began; YPICS 10 weeks.

Technology Integration is core to the way that YPICS delivers instruction. Additionally, we have been committed to and have used computer assistive instructional programs since the adoption of the first charter petition, BCCS, in 2004. All BCCHS’ scholars receive chrome books, which they are allowed to take home, at the beginning of the school year. BCCS’ scholars have had access to technology since week 2 of our Distance Learning Program and MORCS’s scholars will have access to equipment and Wi-Fi by the end of next week. All YPICS’ scholars have had access to curriculum and support through technology or learning packets at both middle schools.

The YPICS’ Board adopted, Grading Policy has not changed. YPICS’ School courses are graded using a Standards-Based A-F grading scale. The system of assessment is Standards-Based Grading for Mastery, which allows for greater flexibility in determining what students have learned. During this time we have directed teachers to focus on essential standards and focus on quality, not the quantity of assignments. Modified assignments and multiple opportunities for students to reassess is how we will adjust for students working through any academic challenge. My expectation, and the Board’s, is that all high school teachers will strictly adhere to the policy as it is written. We want to ensure that our scholars are college ready when they graduate high school. Their diplomas have to mean something, and currently our scholars are stepping up to that expectation. Middle school teachers can follow the additional guidance outlined by their Executive Administrator. We agreed that guidance, not a change in policy, is what we will use to account for any specific site needs during this time.

Sincerely,

  
Executive Director