



YPI CHARTER SCHOOLS

April 27, 2020

TO: YPI Charter Schools
Board of Directors

FROM: Yvette King-Berg
Executive Director

SUBJECT: Recommendation to approve COVID-19 Distance Learning Plan

BACKGROUND

Out of an abundance of caution, and in consultation with local public health, YPI Charter Schools closed as of March 16 in order to curb the potential transmission of the coronavirus (COVID-19).

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

ANALYSIS

The YPICS Executive Team (Executive Director and the Executive Administrators; Larry Simonsen, BCCH, Dr. Rene Quon, MORCS) along with selected site administrators (Daniel Rios, BCCS Director of Instruction, Freddy Zepeda, MORCS Coordinator of Instruction, Jose Castillo, and BCCS Director of Operations) met over the March 14th weekend and determined that YPICS had sufficient technology integration training and resources (such as iReady Math and Reading Programs, Achieve 3000, IXL Math support, & etc.) that would allow the school teams to move to distance learning the following week. Armed with a clear vision, schedule, and guidance, the YPICS Executive Team, Academic Team, the Learning and Support Center Team, and site leads met with teachers, office staff, instructional & supervision aides on March 16th for most of the day to develop a clear Distance Learning Plan. By late afternoon teachers and office staff were calling to communicate with families the Plan, which set to begin the next day.

During the first week, the first priority was to complete a needs assessment for technology equipment and Wi-Fi access for the middle school families. BCCH was able to move immediately into the YPICS Distance Learning Program because each student receives a chrome book on the first day of school. The high school has kept the original daily schedule for check-ins and direct instruction that was in place before the closure. Teachers check-in briefly at the beginning of the day and check-out at the end of the daily communicating celebrations, challenges, and best practices with their school Executive Administrator. The middle schools' modified schedules included Monday PDs for teachers to plan for a split program between students with technology

access and those without. Instructional packets were mailed home each week and both groups of students were provided with follow-up direct instruction/learning activities each week. Bert Corona Middle School families had computer access by the end of the second week of Distance Learning. The final set of computers for Monseñor have arrived and will be distributed by Friday, April 24, 2020. Both Schools' teachers receive daily support from their school's Executive Administrator, Ruben Duenas (BCCS), Larry Simonsen (BCCH), and Dr. Rene Quon (MORCS).

As the schools continue to do weekly calls home, they are discovering that a few more families are in need of Wi-Fi access. As such, one high school student is now in need of access, 10 students at BCCS, and approximately 12 at MORCS. The schools will continue to work on closing any tech support gaps. The Schools' focus after Spring Break: School Culture-How to have more fun virtually, spirit weeks, dances, clubs, etc.

Teachers are using a suite of Google tools, including Google meet, Google classroom, etc. Each week teachers have had access to office hours and mini PDs by Ryan Bradford, YPICS Director of Technology. Additionally, teachers have support from colleagues through Monday, grade level and content teacher planning meetings for the week. Vashon Nutt, YPICS Director of Special Education, has supported the SPED Teams to hold virtual IEPs. Instructional Aides push in support during Google meets and throughout the day to help students with homework help. Office staff and supervision aides' call home daily to follow up with families' of students that have missed a class period, or are absent for the day. The purpose is to check-in with the student and to see if the family is in need. Think Together, YPICS after school provider, has created virtual afterschool support between 3-6. And, all YPICS students have access through out the day to Luminarias Counseling Services. GEAR UP has continued to provide virtual support to the BCCH juniors and seniors.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of YPI Charter Schools approve the YPICS COVID-19 Distance Learning Plan.

Attachments: COVID-19 Distance Learning Schedules for BCCS, MORCS, and BCCH