

EA Report BCCHS Larry Simonsen April 27, 2021

Attendance

The operations team has made well over a thousand phone calls since we began our distance learning program on March 16th. We use a tracking document that allows teachers to communicate with our operations staff by recording who was present online during a regularly scheduled class session, as well as detailed notes about any other concern that our teachers would like our parents to be made aware of. All students are now required to attednd a Google Meet for every core content course in their Tuesday through Friday schedules. Mondays are typically used to check in, administer short assessments, and set the agenda for the week, but not to deliver instruction. The 30 minute time frame is prohibitively short. Actual attendance rates are inconsistent on a daily basis, but with the relentless efforts of the operations team to contact parents on a daily basis, we have seen new students pop up each week. We are finding them and they are returning to classes, so attendance is improving.

A sample of the attendance doc is here:

| Please mark only absent students | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|------------|-------------|-------|---------|----------------|---------|---------------|---------|-----------------|
| Student ID | Last Name | First Name | Middle Name | Grade | 4/22/20 | Comment | 4/23/20 | Comment | 4/24/20 | Comment |
| 12316 | ****** | Joslin | ******* | 11 | FALSE | | FALSE | | FALSE | |
| 12131 | ******* | Xitlaly | ******* | 11 | FALSE | | FALSE | | FALSE | |
| 12135 | ******* | Kylie | ******* | 11 | FALSE | | FALSE | | FALSE | |
| 9836 | ******* | Lynda | ******* | 11 | FALSE | | FALSE | | FALSE | |
| 22311 | ******* | Joan | ******* | 10 | TRUE | Have not hear | FALSE | | FALSE | |
| 22657 | ******* | Edwin | ******* | 10 | TRUE | Has not joined | FALSE | | TRUE | I have seen hir |
| 22680 | ******* | Raul Jr | ******* | 10 | TRUE | Has not logged | FALSE | | TRUE | |
| 22672 | ******* | Andres | ******* | 10 | FALSE | | FALSE | | TRUE | |
| 12434 | ******* | Matthew | ******* | 10 | FALSE | | FALSE | | FALSE | |
| 12488 | ******* | Briant | ******** | 10 | FALSE | | FALSE | | FALSE | |
| 22656 | ******* | Briana | ******* | 9 | FALSE | | TRUE | Not respondin | FALSE | |
| 12997 | ******* | Alexandra | ******* | 9 | FALSE | | FALSE | | FALSE | |
| 22440 | ******* | Dailyn | ******* | 9 | FALSE | | FALSE | | TRUE | |
| 22684 | ******* | Valeria | ******* | 9 | TRUE | | FALSE | | TRUE | |
| 22636 | ******* | Betsabeel | ******* | 9 | TRUE | | FALSE | | TRUE | Heard from an |
| 12998 | ******* | Brandon | ******* | 9 | FALSE | | FALSE | | FALSE | |
| 22461 | ******* | Hannia | ******* | 9 | FALSE | Hunted her do | FALSE | | FALSE | |
| 22595 | ******* | Nataly | ******* | ů, | FALSE | | TRUE | Have not hear | FALSE | |
| 12702 | ****** | Chantal | ****** | | FALSE | | FALSE | | FALSE | |



Distance Learning Challenges and Successes

Google Meet facilitates both instruction and assessment for mastery in an authentically differentiated manner. The demonstration of mastery and understanding that can arise out of a face to face conversation allows for a more personalized approach to determining what students have actually internalized from their instruction. Rarely will students be able to tackle our independent practice and assessment tasks on their own. As second language learners, many with learning disabilities (27% of our student body), the direct face-time with an adult is necessary for deep understanding and the confidence to tackle learning at a high level. We have scaled back the original scope of our syllabi for each of our courses, simply because the loss of classroom time with students limits our ability to successfully cover content. Less is more, is the mantra for the moment. This has reduced the anxiety of both staff and students, as we know that the content we are endeavoring to cover is receiving a thorough treatment, one worthy of a grade representing pre-college level mastery. We are forced to use a variety of assessment strategies to provide us with the evidence we need to make a reasonable determination of student mastery levels. Tests, guizzes and homework are part of the equation, but we are also using mini-projects, group work, and presentations to assess student mastery. Grades are suffering overall, with a passage rate for the current semester hovering around an average of 60% with 6 weeks to go. New messages to parents and students have been sent to encourage family communication about clarity of expectations and maximizing student effort. It is clearly disorienting to have home become school. We understand why some of our students are not responding. That said, our approach is as wrap-around as can possibly be undertaken during this time of isolation.

The AP Spanish exam will be held online this year, at less than half the length of the usual test, and with a focus on open-ended translation. Our students performed beautifully on the AP Spanish exam last year, and we are thankful that the next group of AP students has this opportunity despite the current crisis.

Credit Recovery, Summer school, Graduation and College Attendance

With the partnership of Gear Up, our college and career counselor started several tracking documents for seniors to follow them closely for the purposes of graduation qualification and completion of the college admission process. Our seniors have a May 1 deadline for committing to the four-year universities to which they have been accepted, as well as to clarify financial aid package acceptance. At the moment, about 12% of our seniors are not yet eligible to receive their diplomas due to credit deficiency, but we are confident that with the right support, they will be eligible by the end of summer school. As graduation is being postponed until we can carry out the traditional



live ceremony together in person, students have until the start of the 2020-2021 school year to finish credit-bearing courses with a C or better. We are currently considering using a free, accredited online summer school program for credit recovery, and will notify students of their need to enroll shortly after the 15 week grading window has closed.

Technology

All BCCHS students have had Chromebooks at home for the duration of the pandemic closure, and roughly 10 students have had to return to school to have their machines replaced due to technical failures that have not allowed them to participate in Meets. Each student has had an individual appointment made, computers have been prepared and sanitized, and social distancing has been maintained. Access to the internet has been successfully attained by all students, although the strength of signal has been weak for two students living in a large apartment facility. Ms. Fuentes has been working with several representatives from the City of Los Angeles as well as communications companies to rectify this situation.

Budget

The school will finish the year without layoffs or cuts to material services. Current resources will be used to the maximum extent possible for procurement of resources that will be needed for the following school year, in anticipation of a budget allocation that will require deep cuts. Technology, curriculum and classroom supplies will be top priorities. Our highest material priority is to replace as much of our aging Chromebook fleet as possible, given the fact that most of this fleet is about to start its 6th and 5th years in operation, respectively. Chromebooks have an Auto Update Expiration (AUE), and every year CAASPP changes its technology support system for state testing. What we have seen in the last two years is that CAASPP only supports the newest Chrome OS. Google is constantly updating its Chrome Operating System, and those Chrome OS updates are for all Chromebooks that fall under Google's Auto-Update Policy. The first fleet has already or will be soon reaching their EOL (end of life date). In addition, many of the machines purchased in 2015 and 2016 have simply seen a great deal of punishment, and it is time for these very helpful yet lightweight machines to be retired.

Health and Safety



To date, we have no reported cases of Covid-19 illness within our BCCHS school community.

Professional Development

The Academic Leadership Team continues to conduct deep dives into the effectiveness of our distance learning efforts, and professional development meetings are being structured to include significant small-group Meets that allow for the most up to date information and data sharing as well as troubleshooting. Entire team Meets are limited to information sharing and celebrations as they curtail voluntary participation by design, due to their awkward "together but alone" nature. When meeting as an entire team, participation has worked out best if it is managed by protocols, which is less ideal for our team. We don't offer our best thinking when we are waiting in a long line. That said, the celebrations and Q&A work well when we all meet together. All of this means that PD meetings have to be well organized and structured with a tight agenda and order of discussions, so that facilitators and participants alike know exactly where to be virtually, both how (Meet codes) and when (transitions between Meet groups). Here is a link to a sample PD agenda for a recent pupil free day professional development meeting during the stay-at-home order, complete with schedules and organizational units, as well as linked recorded videos for some of the meetings:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1cruffp19Rc9xj0WrhxhlgkPb1Ne5TGC32PEPjAqNaWl/edit?usp=sharing

Moral

BCCHS Moral continues to be very high. The response of students to distance learning has been very positive for a majority of our students (albeit a majority by a thin margin). The operations team has achieved rockstar status with their non-stop barrage of phone calls to students when they disappear from our virtual classrooms. They have been named "team chancla." There are BCCHS team members, teachers and staff, who have begun to step up and lead in any way they can, people who ordinarily feel limited agency and/or high levels of social anxiety. Technology issues are being troubleshot almost instantly, attendance has become a community endeavor rather than limited to individual classrooms, and the creativity being employed to maximize student engagement is truly inspiring. Working virtually with a mandate for collaboration is somehow creating the ideal conditions for full-throated adult participation and initiative. In addition, our operations team and our faculty have been freed from the daily grind of managing misconduct, so all of their energies are now 100% dedicated to guidance, encouragement, troubleshooting, and teaching. None of us likes the physical isolation,



but we are not leaving work having been drained by difficult interactions with stubborn and moody teens. This is the silver lining, a temporary reprieve. *The public Slack channels with bcchs in the title* are a rich record of the new team spirit that has evolved from this crisis. Again, it is inspiring.