

# MORCS Executive Administrator Board Report

## 5.26.2020



### I. Tentative Plans for re-opening School in the Fall

Along with the YPICS Executive Team, MORCS has been preparing for the eventuality that we may open schools in the fall with guidelines for social distancing. We have considered the following elements of re-opening in order to maximize the safety of students and staff as well as do our best to provide quality instruction given the additional barriers that we may face.

- Safety:
  - Plan to sanitize classrooms at least twice a day. Looking into purchasing sanitation equipment and potentially additional custodial staff
  - Pursuing the purchasing of (extra) facemasks for all students, staff, and visitors
  - Pursuing classroom/office dividers in order to have physical barriers (where enhancing social distancing is required)
  - Pursuing purchase of air purifiers in each classroom / communal space that will clean out the air 5 times every hour
  - Reducing all class sizes by 50%
- COVID testing (Symptom check protocol)
  - Pursuing the partnership with a lab that will allow us to test students and staff for COVID once per semester
  - Will implement symptom checks for students/staff each day
  - Staff/students who have likely been exposed will be sent home for at least 14 days
- Program design
  - Monday is distance learning
  - Considering 2 potential bell schedules:
    - AM / PM cohort, with half of students attending in the morning and half in the afternoon
    - A and B daily schedule, with half of students attending 2 days a week and the other half attending during the remaining two days

### II. Virtual Culmination Ceremony Update

We invited parents, students, and staff to join a Virtual Culmination Committee. The committee has met twice, surveyed all 8th graders, and come up with the following plan for Virtual Culmination:

- We will send families goodie bags (ie. yard signs, culmination decorations, etc)
  - Families will send us porch pictures/ celebration pictures with culmination decorations
- Host virtual culmination ceremony on June 19th @5pm. The ceremony will include
  - Student awards
  - Celebrate each student
    - with teacher notes
    - individual song for each cohort
    - announcement where student is going to HS
    - share porch pictures/celebration pictures with their family
  - Slideshow from 6th-8th grade

### III. Technology Access for all Students

Since distance learning began, we **distributed 131 chromebooks** to families in need, while practicing appropriate Social Distancing protocols. Our updated count reveals the following data:

MORCS Total Enrollment	356
Access to Technology (Before Distribution)	61%
<b>Access to Technology (After Distribution)</b>	<b>99%</b>
Wireless Internet Access	96%

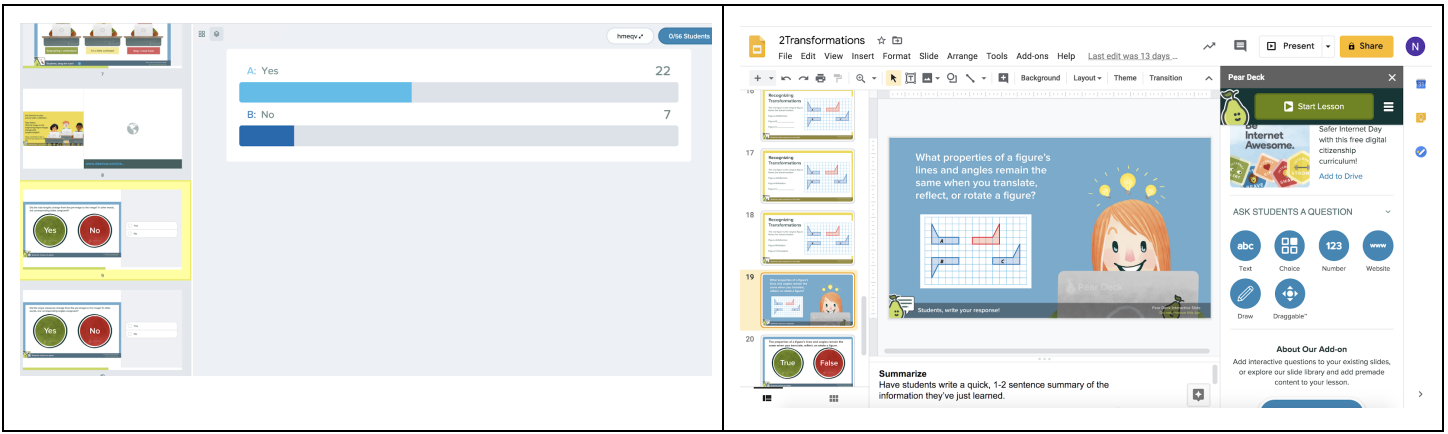
Our Operations Team is working diligently to support the remaining families in picking up chromebooks from the school and in accessing free and/or affordable wireless internet. We are also in the process of delivering hotspots to families in need of wireless internet.

### IV. Distance Learning Update

MORCS is proud to be in our **10th week of Distance Learning!** Teachers are continuing to employ online instructional tools such as iReady, Achieve 3000, Khan Academy, Kahoot, Quizizz, padlet, Google Jam, Google Docs, Screencastify, and many more resources to keep students engaged with distance learning. Within the last two weeks, teachers have particularly gotten proficient at utilizing NearPod and Peardeck to enhance the interactive nature of their lessons to increase engagement and the ability to continually assess student progress towards mastering daily learning objectives.

Screenshots of Peardeck being used to collect **real-time formative assessment data** in 8th grade Math:





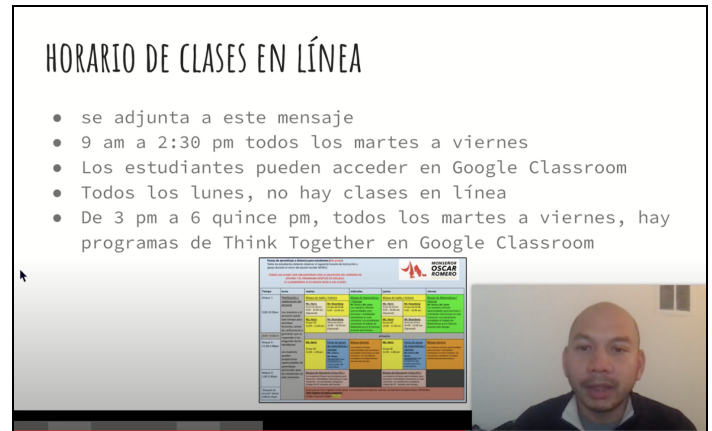
## V. Communication with Families

We hosted a YPICS-Wide “Cafe con los Directores” on April 28th, using the platform CrowdCast. This allowed parents to ask questions to all YPICS leaders and also to ask parents to recruit other families who are looking to enroll their students in grade 6 or 9 next year. We have another parent meeting planned for May 26th in order to update parents on fall re-opening plans as well as Virtual Culmination preparations.

Our team has been doing the following to communicate with parents/students:

- Sending video messages to parents in English and Spanish to ensure parents are supporting our efforts to have our students attend classes
- Making individual parent calls each day when students are absent to online class
- EA (principal) has been emailing all students on a weekly basis to provide updates, to set high expectations for attendance, and to answer student questions

Video message to parents:



## VI. Staff Communication

Staff continue to meet 3 times weekly on **Google Meet** to check-in, receive updates, and share success stories and challenges! Recently, MORCS ELA and Math teachers attended an online session with **iReady** representatives to ensure that they are fully equipped to utilize all components of the iReady online suite.

MORCS teachers also received training from representatives from **NearPod** and **Flocabulary**, in order to enhance formative assessment, engagement, and literacy instruction in all classes.

Samples of staff check-in comments are below:

<p><b>Oscar Montes Sarabia</b> 3:06 PM</p> <p>Shout-out to all staff members working hard to get the laptops ready to be distributed. So many of my students verbally expressed how happy they were about their appointments for laptop pick-up. Thanks you guys. ... Also, I would like to shout-out Ms. Florentino, Mr. Barajas, Mr. Serna, Mr. Garcia, Ms. Rodman, and Mr. C. for all their continued support with so many of our students. They appreciate all your help and I wanted to voice that sentiment for them, in case they don't verbally express their appreciation for you guys. Thanks for all that you guys do.</p> <p>👍 6 🙌 4 🥳 3 🎉</p>	<p><b>Sydney Jones</b> 3:01 PM</p> <p>Shout out to the staff passing out computers, it was nice to hear some voices and see some faces we haven't seen in a while during class this morning 🙌👍</p> <p>👍 1 🙌 1 🎉</p> <hr/> <p><b>Denyale Brown</b> 3:12 PM</p> <p>Shout out of ALL the staff logging into live sessions and assisting with monitoring! Rodman, Castaneda, Serna, L. Garcia, Florentino, Barajas!! Hope I didn't miss anyone.</p> <p>👍 1 🙌 3 🙌 5 🎉</p>
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