Distance Learning Update

AoA Board Meeting April 30, 2020

ES/MS Phase II: Distance Learning Program Goals

- Students learn a small number of essential grade-level standards designed to prepare students for the next grade. Other goals include:
- Keep students engaged and invested in learning
- Continue to provide students opportunities to practice key skills and standards
- Keep students connected to each other and the school and
- Provide both support and stretch experiences for students

ES/MS Phase II: Distance Learning Underlying Values

- Wellbeing for students, families, and ourselves
- Equity and keeping the gap as small as possible
- Balance of routine and flexibility
  - Prioritizing asynchronous learning (can be done at any time) over synchronous (must be done at a specific time).
- Quality over quantity

ES Distance Learning Components for ALL

- Teachers have selected a small handful of essential standards--Math and ELA--to be taught through the end of the year
- Every Monday, teachers post an instructional video on Loom
  - Students watch the video and then log into IXL, Zearn, and a handful of other platforms to practice the skill
  - Students who do not achieve mastery on the skill in IXL by Wednesday afternoon are flagged for reteach (via Zoom) on Thursday and Friday

ES Distance Learning Components for Some

- Students who have worked below grade level throughout the year are scheduled for small group Zoom sessions on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays
- At these sessions, teachers:
  - Reinforce the essential standard of the week
  - And/or do a guided reading lesson

Other Components

- Support staff have all been assigned to a grade level and are working with teachers to provide additional support (FaceTime, Zoom groups) to our most vulnerable students
- Community Activity 3x/week on Zoom (games, read aloud, morning meeting, etc).
- Spanish, PE, Music, and after school staff all posting optional activities 2-3x/week

Sample Teacher Schedule

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:00-8:30	Send ParentSquare/Loom message with assignments, video message, and video lessons for the week	Send ParentSquare/Loom message with assignments and video message, check email/messages	Send ParentSquare/Loom message with assignments and video message, check email/messages	Send ParentSquare/Loom message with assignments and video message, check email/messages	Send ParentSquare/Loom message with assignments and video message, check email/messages
8:30-9:00					
9:00-9:30	Prepare and organize materials for Guided Practice/Guided Reading sessions	Prepare and organize materials for Guided Practice/Guided Reading sessions		Prepare and organize materials for reteach sessions	Planning for next week
9:30-10:00					
10:00-10:30	Prep for Community Activity		Prep for Community Activity	Reteach Zoom session 1	Prep for Community Activity
10:30-11:00	Community Activity	Practice Zoom session 5	Community Activity		Community Activity
11:00-11:30		Practice Zoom session 6			
11:30-12:00	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
12:00-12:30					
12:30-1:00	Practice Zoom session 1	Practice Zoom session 7	Check IXL progress, record mastery scores in data tracker; create new assignments for "mastery" (above 90) students, contact students below 90 for reteach session	Reteach Zoom session 2	Planning for next week
1:00-1:30	Practice Zoom session 2	Practice Zoom session 8			
1:30-2:00	Break, get organized	Break, get organized		Break, get organized	
2:00-2:30	Practice Zoom session 3	Practice Zoom session 9		Reteach Zoom session 3	
2:30-3:00	Practice Zoom session 4	Practice Zoom session 10	Weekly staff check in		Check IXL progress, update tracker
3:00-3:30	Check email/messages, additional	Check email/messages, additional		Check email/messages, additional	Check email/messages, additional

Tracking

Each teacher is tracking:

- Attendance at practice sessions
- Attendance at reteach sessions
- Mastery of essential standards

Week		April 13-17		April 13-17	
Math Essential Skills		*Identifying fractions on a shaded number line IXL 11*		*Identifying fractions graphed on a number line IXL 13*	
		IXL Mastery Score		**IXL Mastery Score**	
Student Name	**Target Student?**	**Wed**	**Fri**	**Wed**	**Fri**
MA		100		100	
IA	y	100		100	
KA		100		100	
SB	y	100		100	
VB		100		100	
BC	y	100		100	
EC	y	100		75	82
FC		home schooling			
YC	y	100		100	
AC		100		100	
SD		100		100	
JF		100		100	
AF	y	100		100	
RG		91		100	

Key Middle School Distant Learning Components

- Instructional teams have determined core standards and skills to focus on and organized 1-2 units for students to complete in each subject.
- All teachers are assigning work through Google Classrooms and we have created a "Home Base" document for each grade level with links to weekly assignments that is accessible to parents/guardians and students

Key Middle School Distant Learning Components

- Along with teacher-created materials, we are using
    - IXL (content/skill work in all subjects)
    - GoFormative (interactive, teacher created lessons and formative assessments)
    - Newsela (already used, primarily in History classes)
    - Math 180 (already used for students who need additional math support)
    - Accelerated Reader (already used in ELA classes)

Key Middle School Distant Learning Components

Phase 2 Distance Learning Schedule

Start Time	End Time	Duration	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri
10:00	11:00	1:00	Science	Math	ELA	History	Electives/Strat Lit/Math 180
11:00	11:30	0:30	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
11:30	12:30	1:00	ELA	History	Science	Math	Tutorial
12:30	1:30	1:00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
1:30	2:00	0:30	Math	PE	Math	Advisory	PE
2:00	3:00	1:00	Electives/StratLit/Math 180	Tutorial	Electives/Strat Lit/Math 180	Tutorial	

Distance Learning Schedule Highlights
- Teachers are assigning work to fit within their time - we recommend that students follow this schedule, however they can do the work asynchronously
- We added additional math time for added math practice
- Teachers offer office hours during their time-slot and one other time during the week
- Students with IEPs are meeting with Instructional Assistants and/or Education Specialists during Tutorial times
- Advisory is a time for community connection

Additional Middle School Supports

- Counselors are continuing regularly scheduled sessions with students and Ms. Smoot is offering drop-in times
- Ms. Smoot has created a Distance Learning support website and she is creating advising curriculum for teachers to use during Advisory
- Instructional Assistants and GOLD staff are offering small group and 1:1 support to students who need additional support
- The COST team is meeting to review a list of students of concern passed on by teachers. We are assigning a point person for each student and making phone calls to provide support
- Starting this week we are offering optional lunch hangout sessions for students over Zoom, hosted by RJ Coordinators and other staff

MS: Measuring Participation and Success

- We are personally reaching out to students who are not engaging and doing our best to determine what support is needed. At this point, teachers report that around 20% of students are not completing assignments. We are finding that lack of engagement correlates with socio-economic background.
- We sent out surveys to parents/guardians and students on April 23 and we are working to analyze and respond to the feedback. At a high level, we found:
  - Our program has helped students establish a routine and stay engaged with school
  - About half the respondents want more and half want less - it is hard to determine a "Goldilocks" solution
  - There is a desire for more synchronous time for some, which is inconsistent with teacher reporting that few students are attending synchronous Zoom meetings

MS: Measuring Success

- We are currently utilizing an A-C grade scale, based on our equity-based decision that no child should fail or "not pass" during this time. Grades are determined primarily based on effort and completion.
- We will be looking at early grading data in our Instructional Leadership Team meeting to determine what changes may need to be made.
- The COST team and the School Culture Leadership Team are meeting to plan more opportunities for SEL support and school-culture building.
- It is challenging to use attendance or work completion as a measure of success. Many of our students are sharing computers with siblings and parents, providing childcare to siblings, or having trouble focusing in such a stressful time.