

# COVID-19 Operations Written Report for Bishop Unified School District

Local Educational Agency (LEA) Name	Contact Name and Title	Email and Phone	Date of Adoption
Bishop Unified School District	Katherine Kolker Superintendent	kkolker@bishopschools.org 760 872-3680	06/16/2020

**Descriptions provided should include sufficient detail yet be sufficiently succinct to promote a broader understanding of the changes your LEA has put in place. LEAs are strongly encouraged to provide descriptions that do not exceed 300 words.**

Provide an overview explaining the changes to program offerings that the LEA has made in response to school closures to address the COVID-19 emergency and the major impacts of the closures on students and families.

In response to school closures to address the COVID-19 emergency, Bishop Unified School District implemented a Distance Learning Plan that was communicated to District staff and community members via Aeries Communication messages and the District website. The goal of the plan is to provide a robust and engaging blended learning education to all Bishop Unified students.

Anticipating statewide closures, the District prepared staff members for the possibility of Distance Learning on Friday, March 13th, 2020. On March 14th, the District announced that it would transition to a distance learning model beginning March 16th, the following Monday. The plan sets forth an online and/or hard copy-based learning experience for all TK-12th grade students. Core instruction is delivered by classroom teachers during normally scheduled school days using primarily Google Classroom (grades 3-12) and See Saw (grades TK-2) as common online platforms. Internet hot spots were provided to all families who needed internet access by late April. Specialists provide support and instruction on a modified but routine basis ensuring that all children continue to receive a comprehensive learning experience. A major impact to students and families is the lack of socialization, connection, and face-to-face learning time for students. Additionally, academic support must be provided by families with limited guidance and experience. The District has focused on providing social emotional and counseling support for children which includes counselors reaching out to individual families, connections with teletherapy resources, social media posts, and shared local resource groups for families.

For feedback, the District disseminated surveys focused on the distance learning experience and school reopening preferences to 3 main stakeholder groups: students (grades 3-12), all parents/guardians, and all school staff. The results of these surveys will allow the District to improve upon our model and better serve our community moving forward.

Provide a description of how the LEA is meeting the needs of its English learners, foster youth and low-income students.

Bishop Unified School District has continued to provide English Language learners, foster youth, and low-income students with targeted instruction and support services. The District English Language (EL) Coordinator and EL support staff have reached out to all newcomer

families personally and has coordinated weekly communication (at minimum) to every EL Learner family with a bilingual staff member to provide connection and academic support. All District communication is translated into Spanish as well as sent out in English to all families. Administration and/or counselors contacted every foster youth student to evaluate living circumstances and determine if they might qualify for graduation requirement modification under EC 51225.1 (minimum HS graduation requirements). Low income families were provided with information re: EBT cards, free meals, shelter-in-place resources, and regular counseling support.

Provide a description of the steps that have been taken by the LEA to continue delivering high-quality distance learning opportunities.

Bishop Unified School District teachers have delivered high-quality distance learning opportunities to each of their students by maintaining personal and individualized contact with each child and providing a comprehensive learning experience. Every TK-5th grade classroom teacher and 6-12th grade homeroom teacher has attempted to make personal contact with every student at least once per week via Google Hangouts/Meet, phone, text, or email. Teachers have quickly adapted to the use of technology for delivering instruction, have blended educational activities, and have continuously assessed and provided feedback to each student. Teachers are effectively using a variety of Google Suite Apps, Zoom conferencing, and various other engaging online platforms to deliver instruction. Sites have also used the District website as a one-stop location for families to access distance learning information.

Provide a description of the steps that have been taken by the LEA to provide school meals while maintaining social distancing practices.

The District's food service program has been a true bright spot amidst the COVID pandemic circumstances. Immediately following school closures, the cafeteria offered curbside pick-up meals in the Bishop Elementary School parking lot. Once we recognized that all families could not regularly access meals at one central location, we expanded our pick-up meal service to 9 different locations throughout the Bishop area, in a variety of neighborhoods. School staff use District vans to transport meals to each location on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, offering 4 meals per bag for families to pick up for each child 18 and under. The number of meals families picked up quickly tripled once we expanded our pick up locations.

Provide a description of the steps that have been taken by the LEA to arrange for supervision of students during ordinary school hours.

The supervision of students during school hours was arranged in partnership with families and caregivers in the home. Bishop Unified School District provided families with schedules, meaningful activities and a combination of on and offline coursework to assist with supervision. District staff maintained contact with families through a variety of communication tools including phone calls, texts, and emails to assess supervision and other needs.

In addition, the District was able to refer families to the County Office of Education which houses the county-wide Child Care Resource and Referral contract (R&R) from CDE, Early Learning and Care Division. The R&R is able to provide the District and any family, referral information and services for those in need of child care services and supervision during school closures. The R&R can provide:

- Referral to child care providers that best match the family's needs (center-based and home-based)
- Information regarding the child care supply (i.e. capacity, open vacancies by age, site closures)

- Child care subsidized for low-income families (Alternative Payment Program).

R&R website as an available resource that explains all services (<https://childcareconnect.inyocoe.org/>)