



COVID-19 Operations Written Report for Soledad Unified School District

Local Educational Agency (LEA) Name	Contact Name and Title	Email and Phone	Date of Adoption
Soledad Unified School District	Randy Bangs Associate Superintendent, Educational Services	rbangs@soledad.k12.ca.us 831-678-0668	6/10/2020

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.

Phase I: When school closure was initiated, our district planned and implemented a distance learning program. The program relied upon packets in the elementary grades to ensure equitable access for all students, since elementary students have not been issued take-home devices. Elementary students were provided teacher-designed weekly learning packets provided through parent pick-up at school sites. Secondary students (grades 7-12), who had take-home devices were offered teacher-designed online or packet options depending upon their access to the internet at their residence. Secondary students who do not have access to WiFi were able to obtain the same learning content and assignments through packets available at Main Street Middle School and Soledad High School. High School are being offered continuing access to the existing Acellus online learning program and learning packets as available. The intent of Phase I was to provide practice and enrichment on previously taught standards through new content. Phase I was intended to address the learning needs of our students through May 1.

Phase II: The purpose of Phase II of our Distance Learning plan was to provide for student learning on new as well as previously standards through online digital resources and interactive learning with teachers. Online Learning was intended to scale up beginning May 4. In order to ensure equity, Phase II depended upon maximizing the availability of technology devices and access to home internet. Phase II has included training in use of educational technology for our teachers as well as providing online learning/resources to our students and parents.

Looking ahead: The District will explore expansion and enhancements to EdTech Tools to increase the interactivity of instruction, (i.e. flipping the classroom through use of Screencastify). We will look for ways for online learning to be more engaging for our students at all grade levels.

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

English Learners: EL TOSAs have supported Learning Packet development by providing ELD lessons to augment standards-based materials. EL TOSAs have been providing virtual coaching support to regular education teachers. The EL TOSAs developed an English Learner Resource Guide with links to online resources and programs to support EL instruction.

Foster Youth: Family Liaisons have been checking in with families of foster students to ensure they have support. Our district has partnered with the Monterey County Food Bank to provide locations for weekly food distribution. In addition, the district has passed out hygiene kits and school supplies to homeless families.

Low-income Students: One of the ways our district is meeting the needs of unduplicated students has been through provision of 1:1 devices (iPads). Secondary students (grades 7-12) already had district-issued devices prior to school closure. Elementary students had 1:1 devices in classrooms prior to school closure. A device distribution process took place in April, and nearly 90% of our students picked up a device. A technology survey was issued to parents of all students and revealed that approximately 20% do not have internet connectivity at home. The survey response rate was 24%. The district is taking short and long term steps to increase student access to the internet. Monterey-Salinas Transit buses are regularly parked at locations throughout the district to provide student access to community wifi. The District is moving forward with a plan to community wifi towers in two different locations. These towers are expected to cover most of our attendance area and serve up to 1,200 students. The district is also pursuing USDA grant funding to install two additional towers to increase the number of students and geographical areas served by community WiFi.

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

Enhancing Platforms: Our Distance Learning Plan makes use of current, well-known online programs and platforms while allowing for individual teacher and school innovation. A survey of teachers indicated the most prominent tools used included Google Classroom and Docs, SeeSaw, Class DoJo, Acellus, Illuminate, and Zoom. The District purchased licenses for Zoom, Screencastify and Seesaw applications to enhance teacher and student use of these programs.

Professional Development: A Professional Development program on use of educational technology was implemented to enable teachers in providing online learning for students. PD resources were made accessible to teachers remotely. This PD program has included three elements: YouTube, Alludo Distance Learning and Live/Archived Teacher-made Webinars. Virtual Coaching for teachers on a wide array of topics is available on a weekly cycle.

Parent/Student Support: The district has posted resources on its website to provide support to parents in assisting their students with distance learning. Resources have included Guidance for Parents on Distance Learning, sample Daily Schedules and Social Emotional resources. The District has been offering tech support to parents and students at home to support district-issued devices and distance learning tools.

Looking Forward: Our district is planning to improve its Distance Learning Program in anticipation of a fall blended learning model.

- Analyze student, staff and parent survey data on distance/online learning.
- Use district personnel who have high proficiency with platforms to continue doing peer training.
- Conduct a needs assessment with staff and students to guide fall online learning PD.
- Implement metrics for analyzing student engagement in distance learning to ensure all students are able to participate.
- Establish a blended learning attendance system.
- Look at extended learning, in a virtual environment.
- Continue interaction with parents around distance learning topics and issues.
- Explore providing parent-school workshops on use of edtech tools in a virtual format.

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

On March 16, the first day of school closure, our food service staff implemented a drive-up grab and go meal program which included same day lunch and next day breakfast, between 11:00 am and 1:00 pm daily at each of our school sites. Parents and students grab and go meal distribution has been reduced to three sites. Students from all schools are able to get their meals from any of the three sites. On April 20, the district added supper to the daily meal distribution to provide better nutrition for our students. Since March 16, 2010 over 200,000 meals have been served. Meal service will continue past the last day of the normal school year, through to June 30, 2010.

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

The district is not providing supervision of students during school hours as of this date. The district has posted a list of available child care services on its website <https://mychildcare.ca.gov/#/home>. The district operates a state preschool program. Registration for the 2020-21 school year is scheduled for June 1-30. The District does offer an After School Program. There is contingency planning which may target ASP services for children of essential workers if shelter-in-place guidance is still in effect in August at the start of the 2020-21 school year.