

COVID-19 Operations Written Report for Humboldt County Office of Education

Local Educational Agency (LEA) Name	Contact Name and Title	Email and Phone	Date of Adoption
Humboldt County Office of Education	Shari Lovett Director	slovett@nuarters.org (707) 445-2660 Ext. 110	6/25/20

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.

Northern United - Humboldt Charter School is a non-classroom based charter school. We closed our facilities on March 13, 2020. Given that we are a non-classroom based charter school, our transition was more quickly implemented. Though we are non-classroom based, we have many facilities in which students meet their teachers for instruction and live classes. Once we suspended our in-person classes, we transitioned toward maintaining our regular class schedules in a virtual fashion. We have also moved all special education services to an online platform. We are delivering instruction to students using a combination of Google Classroom, Zoom, and other online platforms. We ensured students had Chromebooks, internet access, and hot spots. We are also continuing with packets, textbooks, and other forms of traditional curriculum. Our tutors are making themselves available to meet with students.

We reached out to all families to inquire about their needs outside of the education of their children, including food insecurities, child care needs, household supplies, etc., with a special focus on students who qualify for free or reduced lunch or special needs. Our counselor and school psychologists have regular group and individual meetings addressing the social/emotional needs of our students and families. We are informing our families of the free breakfast and lunch opportunities being provided by local school districts and the additional food resources in the community.

The overall impact of our school closure has been the stress brought on families by having to be the main provider of their child’s education while experiencing a loss of income, food insecurities, and uncertainty in what the future holds. We have been keeping in touch with our families on a regular basis via Dial my Call and posting on our websites and social media accounts.

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

In order to meet the needs of our English learner students, teachers are meeting with their students using a digital platform. Teachers are continuing with direct instruction of their ELD program using English/Language Arts curriculum with English Language Development standards embedded. Work is modified and enriched as needed.

In order to meet the needs of our foster and homeless youth, our McKinney Vento liaison is in regular contact with these families. Our counselor and school psychologists are also reaching out to our low-income students. We are providing resources to all of these students as needed. These resources include laundry services, support with obtaining food stamps, MediCal, food and childcare, counseling and other community resources. We have also provided any technology needs required for the student's education, including Chromebooks and hotspots, as well as any other curricular needs and supplies. In addition to these resources and supports, the students' teachers are reaching out to students and families on a regular basis to ensure needs are being met.

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

Using a combination of printed materials, Google Classroom, Zoom, Google Meet, our teachers have been able to continue with high-quality instruction. The administration provided training and other resources in how to use various digital tools to deliver instruction, as well as resources and guidance in terms of best practices in online instruction. Also, weekly staff meetings occur to share best practices for distance learning. Our tutors and instructional aides have been able to meet with students online to help them with their assignments. We are also continuing with our Tier 2 intervention program using data from our Star/Renaissance Learning assessments. Intervention plans are continuing to be implemented using IXL, Khan Academy, and other support programs. We ensured that all students who had technology deficits at home were provided what they needed. This included issuing multiple hotspots to families with multiple students enrolled so that they did not have to share. Special education service providers provide modifications and accommodations as well as virtual meetings for students with special education needs, maintaining special education minutes as determined by individual educational plans. We have also modified our grading criteria, holding students harmless during this difficult time. Students have the opportunity to increase their grades from the time of school closure, but the closure will not impact their grades negatively.

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

Meal service began on the first day of our facility closure. After one week of providing meals via parent pick-up, we notified our families that meal service would be shifted to other area school districts' Summer Food Service Programs. Our staff made personal telephone connections with families to ensure those in need had information regarding locations and times of food availability. We also sent the

information out through email and posted it at our facilities and on our website. Staff continues to reach out to parents to ensure family meal needs are addressed. There is ongoing communication between our school, Humboldt County Office of Education and other local districts.

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

Our teachers and counseling staff have reached out to families to inquire about childcare needs. Families who need childcare have been given local community resources, including referrals to Changing Tides. Teachers are working with students and parents with regard to setting up as much of a routine as possible. We continue to check in with families on a regular basis regarding their needs. Community childcare resources have been provided to families through emails and personal communication through our counseling staff.