



COVID-19 Operations Written Report for Washington Unified School District

Local Educational Agency (LEA) Name	Contact Name and Title	Email and Phone	Date of Adoption
Washington Unified School District	Randy R. Morris Superintendent	randy.morris@wusd.ws (559) 495-5626	June 24, 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.

The Washington Unified School District (WUSD) made significant changes to its educational programs in order to support students and their families during school closure. The following is a brief overview:

Academic Program

Washington Unified transitioned to a comprehensive distance learning program that included three learning options for students: 1) An online educational program option, 2) a paper/pencil educational program option, and 3) an educational television program option. Families were contacted by their teachers or other school staff and able to choose the learning option that worked best for them. WUSD teachers provided daily lessons in CORE content areas both digitally and in a paper packet format. Special populations, including English Learners and Students with Disabilities, were provided with additional materials and supports, including online individualized instruction, to be able to access learning. WUSD adopted a "no harm" grading policy during school closure. The completion of lessons and activities was strongly encouraged, but not required in order to maintain compliance with guidance from the California Department of Education (CDE). Middle School and High School students were given the option to improve their grades by completing lessons and activities assigned by their teachers.

Social-Emotional Support Program

In addition to teacher contacts, WUSD counselors, our school social worker, and our contracted school psychologists and counseling service provider (All 4 Youth) continued to provide critical social-emotional supports during school closure utilizing phone calls and online meeting platforms such as Google Meet, Microsoft Teams, and Zoom.

Meal Distribution

WUSD nutrition staff prepared and distributed breakfasts and lunches daily throughout school closure, including providing meals for families during our regularly scheduled Spring Break. During school closure, 100,744 meals were distributed on a grab-and-go basis to all children under 18, regardless of whether or not they attended WUSD schools.

Technology Distribution

In order to facilitate the online learning options outlined above, WUSD provided Chromebook access to all families. 639 families chose to check out a Chromebook to provide access to 1251 students (47%) of our student population. 365 hotspots were purchased to help families who did not have reliable internet access. These hotspots are being distributed to students in need to be used in our summer programs and beyond.

Health and Safety

In order to ensure the health and safety of staff and students during school closure, the following measures were taken:

- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) was provided to staff at all district facilities.
- Offices, Buildings, and other commonly used spaces were cleaned and procedures were updated to meet Fresno County Department of Public Health (FCDPH) guidelines.
- A COVID Screener was implemented for all staff entering district facilities.
- Staff was provided with the following professional learning modules: Coronavirus Awareness (All Staff), Personal Protective Equipment (Classified Staff)

Communication

WUSD created a "School Closure Information and Resources" section on each school's website which included a page dedicated to regular COVID-19 updates. The auto-dialer system was used regularly and all information pertaining to school closure was classified as "emergency" communications so that all parents and guardians would receive updates. Letters were also mailed from both the district office and the school sites pertaining to educational learning options, meal distribution, community resources, grading policies, etc. WUSD sought stakeholder input about school closure from parents, students (Grades 3-12), and staff using Google Surveys in order to gain important information about how to plan for the upcoming school year.

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

English Learners

In order to continue to provide both designated and integrated English Learner Development (ELD) support for English Learners, each site developed an English Learner Support Plan for Distance Learning.

Integrated ELD

Embedded supports were provided in weekly lessons developed by teachers that included sentence frames, vocabulary builders, and instructions for parents in Spanish for select lessons. Utilizing the California Department of Education's recommended resources for English Learners, WUSD also created an English Learner Support Page for distance learning on our website that provided access to free programs and supports for families.

Designated ELD

English learners were provided with designated learning materials, including grade level ELD Choice Boards, and access to supplemental digital learning programs, such as Ticket to Read and Reading Plus. Designated staff members at each site contacted each English Learner by phone to make sure families were aware of the additional supports and could access them. Staff also provided on-going support as requested by students, including online tutoring sessions or phone calls. WUSD designed a technology-based summer school option specifically for at-risk groups, including English Learners which would provide remote small group instruction in Math and ELA using Google Meets to prevent learning gaps and strengthen English proficiency.

Low-income Students

91% of students in WUSD qualify as socio-economically disadvantaged, therefore WUSD implemented specific supports for these students district-wide. Supports included access to learning using online, paper, and television options, counseling and community resource referrals, daily meal distribution, and technology distribution to ensure that all students could access WUSD's comprehensive Distance Learning program. More detail is provided in the section entitled, "Changes to Program Offerings" above.

Foster Youth

Each school site has a designated Foster Liaison for students. Liaisons contacted all Foster families and students to ensure students were aware of supports offered, to connect families to community resources, and to provide a contact person specifically to support foster families during school closure. WUSD designed a technology-based summer school option specifically for at-risk groups, including Foster Youth which would provide remote small group instruction in Math and ELA using Google Meets to prevent learning gaps.

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

Within one week of closing school campuses, WUSD launched a Comprehensive Distance Learning Program with 3 Options for families: 1) An online educational program option, 2) a paper/pencil educational program option, and 3) an educational television program option. Families were contacted by their teachers or other school staff and able to choose the learning option that worked best for them.

In order to ensure that distance learning opportunities were of high-quality, teachers were provided with a "Distance Learning Opportunities Overview" which included requirements for both individual teacher-generated and grade-level generated program offerings. The overview contained research-based recommendations for both online and paper learning options, including:

- A focus on essential skills/standards.
- Research-based instructional supports for learning (clear directions and objectives, step-by-step instructions, visual representations, and examples, etc.).
- Recommended maximums time frames per core subject (ex. 5-10 hours per week).
- Clear communication with families about daily expectations, learning objectives, and supports available.
- Integrated ELD supports and Designated ELD for English Learners.

WUSD provided supports for Students with Disabilities including creating Emergency Distance Learning Plans that included modified lessons and individualized support from RSP and SDC teachers.

All learning opportunities were reviewed by designated district personnel and Academic Coaches provided one-on-one and grade level support for teachers as needed. Coaches also provided professional development about utilizing online learning platforms such as Google Classrooms and Google Meet to provide instruction to students during school closure.

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

WUSD utilized a summer meals non-congregate feeding waiver to provide daily meals to families through the Seamless Summer Program Option during school closure on a grab-and-go basis. 100,744 packaged breakfasts and lunches were prepared and distributed at two school sites, Washington Union High School and West Fresno Elementary School. All children 18 and under were eligible for free meals and children did not have to reside in WUSD to be eligible. In order to promote the health and safety of staff and community members, WUSD waived the requirement for children to be present to pick up meals. Parents expressed appreciation for this temporary waiver and were able to pick up meals for multiple family members without exposing them to the public.

In order to ensure the health and safety of staff and students during meal distribution, WUSD staff followed guidelines provided by the Fresno County Superintendent of Schools and the Fresno County Department of Public Health (FCDPH). Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), such as face masks, gloves, and hand sanitizer were provided to staff who prepared and distributed meals and a COVID Screener was implemented for all staff entering district facilities. Staff set up drive-through stations at each site and posted social distancing recommendations for families.

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

On March 19, 2020, the California State Public Health Officer and Director of the California Department of Public Health ordered all individuals living in the State of California to stay home or at their place of residence, except for essential needs as needed to maintain continuity of operation of the federal critical infrastructure sectors. In an effort to prepare for requests for the supervision of the children of essential workers, Washington Unified curated a list of local organizations and childcare centers that could safely provide supervision of students during ordinary school hours. WUSD also informed parents about California's Child Care Resource & Referral Network to assist with childcare needs. WUSD received no requests for the supervision of students during school closure.