COVID-19 Operations Written Report for Brawley Union High School District

Local Educational Agency (LEA) Name | Contact Name and Title | Email and Phone | Date of Adoption
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Brawley Union High School District | Mr. Simon R. Canalez, Superintendent | scanalez@brawleyhigh.org 760.312.6085 | 6/24/20

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.

Brawley Union High School District (BUHSD) has had to make several changes in response to school closure on March 17, 2020. Both students and teachers were dismissed from campus and began a period of online enrichment activities. Students began Distance Learning in late April and the district enacted a "hold harmless" policy in which students would receive a "no credit" in lieu of an "F" and a "credit" in lieu of a "D". During the enrichment phase, students’ grade could only improve. This gave the district an opportunity to assess the needs of its students and provide the tools they would need to learn from home. One major impact the closure has had is providing students with internet access and an electronic device that they can use from home. Another concern was ensuring all households were receiving support and assistance based on their individual needs. The district made personal phone calls, sent out surveys, mailed information home and posted information on their website and social media accounts to help ensure all households received the most updated information.
Provide a description of how the LEA is meeting the needs of its English learners, foster youth and low-income students.

Families who needed support with access to internet were identified and provided WiFi devices by the district. The technology department issued chromebooks and WiFi devices to students focusing on foster youth and low-income students. Counseling staff continues to reach out to families of students who are not engaged at school and are offering additional community resources when necessary. Wellness visits have been made for families unable to physically come to the school to receive services or are not responding to emails, calls or text messages.

BUHSD has provided differentiated curriculum for its English learners. The district has invested in digital programs such as Rosetta Stone, ELD Companion and Read Write Software in order to support increasing proficiency in English for its English learners. This curriculum is adaptive software and is able to provide skill building lessons within the student’s current English proficiency level.

In order to further support English learners, foster youth and socio-economically disadvantaged students, the district has ensured families have access to information in their home language regarding distance learning and preventive measures for protecting their families. The district is providing breakfast and lunch Monday – Friday for all children who reside in the city of Brawley to support our unduplicated pupils. Our Family Resource Center is open Monday – Friday for students in need of social-emotional support. The district continues to identify foster and homeless youth in order to provide them support services specific to their needs.

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

Between March 17, 2020 through April 24, 2020, the Brawley Union High School District entered into an Enrichment Phase of the distance learning plan. During this phase, students were building skills through work assigned in each of their courses. Students would be “held harmless” during this transition and completed assignments would count toward improving their grade. This provided the district time to conduct a needs assessment to determine what each student would require to be a successful participant of Distance Learning. Phone calls, postal mailings, emails, text messages, and social media posts kept families and community members abreast of our current situation.

Beginning April 27, 2020, the district moved into a graded model of Distance Learning. Since the shift to distance learning, BUHSD staff have continued to provide high quality instruction and support to their students through ongoing communication using a combination of learning management systems, email, phone calls, live video conferencing (Zoom or Google Meets), posted digital learning resources and printed materials if needed. Continuous communication with households supporting our students has been crucial as they have become partners in educating their child.

The district has ensured a comprehensive website which includes parent resources, updated information, the latest updates regarding COVID-19 and school closures, as well as other support families may need.
BUHSD has worked in conjunction with the Imperial County Office of Education to offer substantial professional development free of charge to teachers to support them in the distance learning model. The district’s teacher coaches have also provided training specific to teacher needs.

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

On March 23, 2020 the District’s Child Nutrition Department began serving breakfast and lunch to all children ages 0 – 18 years old. Distribution information was posted on the school marquee, social media, school website, communicated through phone calls, emails and text messages. The district set up a drive-thru, contact free meal pick up in front of Brawley Union High School’s cafeteria. At first breakfast and lunch were distributed daily from 9:30 am – 11:30 am. The district served between 700–1,000 meals daily. As time progressed, the district moved to a Monday/Wednesday meal distribution model. Monday children pick up breakfast and lunch for two days and Wednesday children pick up meals for three days. BUHSD has continued to maintained its numbers in regards to meals distributed daily. This has allowed child nutrition staff to maximize their meal packaging time. Our program will continue through the end of June 2020.

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

In response to Executive Order N-56-20, the district will utilize the comprehensive high school site to provide childcare during traditional school hours. The Brawley Union High School District is working in conjunction with the Imperial County Office of Education and other professional entities to ensure students receive supervision during school hours and parents are aware of child supervision facilities in their area. While the district is offering distance learning opportunities for its preschool students, it has developed a plan to ensure childcare is provided for families in need of assistance. BUHSD has provided its community with a list of licensed facilities that are open and available. While the district's preschool remains closed at this time, it is on the list of approved daycares, should the need to re-open arise.