Promising High Tech/High Touch Solutions for Back to School

September 29, 2020

The Campaign for
GRADE-LEVEL
READING

Moderator

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Presenters

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Grade Level Reading Learning Tuesdays
Learning Loss Recovery Challenge
High Tech/High Touch Strategies for Back to School

Christopher Blair, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Education

About Bullock County Schools

- Located in Bullock County AL
- 625 Square Miles
- Population of 11,000
- 1450 Student Enrollment
- 80% Poverty
- 83% Black
- 15% Hispanic
- 2% White
- Four school sites: elementary, middle, high and career technical center
- Bullock County's main industry is agriculture and is known as the Field Trial Capital of the World.

BULLOCK COUNTY SCHOOLS
REOPENING SCHOOLS OPERATIONAL PLAN

SUMMER PROGRAM OPERATIONAL PLAN (Academic and Extracurricular)
RETURN TO SCHOOL POSSIBLE SCENARIOS: **A:** Traditional Face-to-Face Learning (Green) **B:** Blended: Traditional and Selected Remote/Virtual Learning (Yellow/Orange) **C:** Total Remote/Virtual Learning (Red)
A: Traditional Face-to-Face Learning **Provide high-quality instruction in a physical, active-learning environment via face-to-face instruction**
B: Blended: Traditional and Selected Remote/Virtual Learning **Seamless transition between high-quality instruction in a physical, active-learning environment via face-to-face instruction to a high-quality, virtual learning environment via Schoology.**
C: Remote/Virtual Learning Plan **Provide seamless, high-quality instruction in a virtual, active-learning environment via a district-wide LMS** **Link to Remote Learning Plan Implementation Details**

Addressing Equity

Virtual summer school for our most vulnerable K-3 students
- Distributed laptops and wifi hotspots to every student in need
- Critical reading and math were selected and virtual content developed
- Teachers provided four weeks/three hours per day of virtual reading and math synchronous instruction via Google Classroom

Implemented district-wide Learning Management System (LMS) - Schoology
- Technology and content integration - Summer 2020
- Virtual system and school-level PD - Spring/Summer/Fall 2020
- Virtual and small-group, face-to-face parent and student PD - Summer/Fall 2020

Addressing Equity

Remote Return to School (Aug 24, 2020)
- Distributed laptop computer and wifi hotspot to each student in need
- Parent and student tech training and support via orientations, open houses, and digital resources

School Day 9:00 - 12:00, M-F
- Students must login to schoology and/or google meet daily during this time for synchronous instruction
- Students will receive counseling, library media, special education accommodations, EL support, 504 support, PE, electives, and CTC
- 1:00 - 3:00 pm teacher office hours for parents and students to receive assistance

Student Attendance
- Attendance is determined in various ways including completed virtual and physical assignments, online contacts through learning management systems, and daily participation in virtual learning sessions

Learning Loss Recovery Challenge

Assessment for Learning

Administered diagnostic reading and math assessments to determine current level of performance and instructional grouping

- TS Gold assessment for prekindergarten and kindergarten students
- Alakids for all kindergarten students
- Scantron Performance Series , AimsWeb, and DIBELS for 1st-3rd grade students

Strategic Instruction and Support

- Reteaching of ten critical reading, math, science, and social studies grade-level standards during first nine weeks of school
- Remediation built into the virtual synchronous instructional schedule and scheduled during teacher office hours
- Automated learning paths for computer-assisted instruction, enrichment, and remediation via Edgenuity MyPath, iRead, and Blue Streak
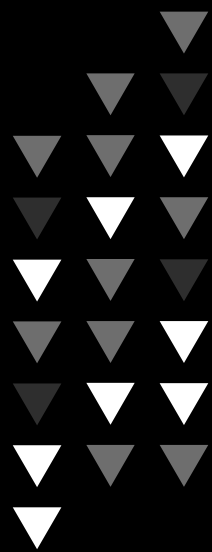
Learning Loss Recovery Challenge

Synchronous Instruction
- Teachers provide daily, live instruction via Google Meet
- Sessions are recorded and posted for students to review and view for missed instruction

Added Face-to-Face Support/Activities for Students
- Teachers facilitate one-on-one and small group (10 or less) instruction, tutorial, and extracurricular activities while the district remains in Remote Learning mode
- Criteria for attendance will be based on student data that documents need for instruction or tutorial
- Students must be identified as one-on-one, small group, or extracurricular
- Schools must set a regular schedule of attendance and time for these activities to take place outside of regular classroom instructional time

Keeping Families Connected

Communication
- Parent access to Schoology platform
- Weekly counselor sessions for parents and students via Google Meet
- Telephone and face-to-face parent conferences and tech help sessions
- Zoom meetings to help parents and students navigate schoology
- Virtual: social media outlets and school telephone messaging
- Translation services
- Access to INOW parent portal to view grades
- Progress reports
- Surveys

Broadband Services
- Alabama Broadband Connectivity for Students - Free service through Dec 2020

Follow and Connect with Bullock County Schools

https://bullockcounty.schoolinsites.com
https://www.facebook.com/bullockusa
Twitter: @BullockCOSchool

Follow and Connect with Dr. Christopher Blair

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PROMISING HIGH-TECH/HIGH-TOUCH
SOLUTIONS FOR BACK TO SCHOOL

Dr. Vivian Ekchian, Superintendent of Schools

Glendale Unified School District

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 @VivianEkchian   @GlendaleUSD

EQUITY BY DESIGN
Glendale Unified School District - Overview

- Enrollment: 26,000 students in preschool through 12th grade

- Employees: More than 3,000 teachers, administrators, and support staff

- Budget: $300 million

- Schools: 20 elementary schools, 4 middle schools, 3 comprehensive high schools, 1 magnet high school, 1 continuation high school, a developmental center for students with disabilities, and child care centers serving preschool or school-age children

- National/State Awards: Nine (9) National Blue Ribbon Schools, 2 National Green Ribbon Schools, 26 California Distinguished Schools, Model Continuation High School, and 17 of our district's 18 Title 1 schools have been named Title 1 Achieving Schools

- NCUST 2020 America's Best Urban School Award – Mann Elementary School

Student Demographics

English Learners	**23%**
Free/Reduced Lunch	**54%**
Students with Special Needs	**10%**
# of Languages spoken at home	**54**
White – Armenian	38%
White – Not Armenian	22%
Hispanic or Latino	20%
Korean	7%
Filipino	5%
Black or African American	2%
Chinese	1%
Japanese	1%
Asian Indian	1%
Other Races or Multiple Races	3%

START WITH "WHY"

- Guiding principle is **"Excelling together to provide our students with endless pathways for success."** This means maximizing student achievement and preparing students for a wide range of higher education and career opportunities so that every child can achieve their aspirational goals.

- Supporting the social and emotional needs of our students and ensuring that every child feels a sense of belonging on our campuses and has a voice.

- Transforming GUSD into a world-class, globally competitive school district.

EQUITY BY DESIGN
Closing the Digital Divide; Nutritional Support

Closing the digital divide for students

- Since March 23, we distributed:

| 15,447 Chromebooks | 1,700 headphones | 1,864 hotspots | 200 webcams |

- Parent Tech Training offered (Intro to Zoom and Intro to Google Classroom)

Nutritional support for students

- Since August 19 (first day of school), we served (average):

| 4,300 meals a day | 21,500 meals a week |

- Available to all children, 18 years and under

- USDA has extended authorization for free meals for children until 12/3
  *There is pending legislation (passed by the House) that needs the Senate's and President's approval
  that would extend free meals through the end of the school year and perhaps through September 2021.

EQUITY BY DESIGN
Distance Learning PD & Primary Student Assessments

Professional Development (PD)
- Voluntary PD training - 61 sessions were offered with over 8,000 "seats" filled for a total of nearly 12,000 hours of training across all participants (1,083 teachers and 152 substitute teachers)
- Two-day mandatory PD training for all teachers on distance learning essential practices
- Zoom and Google Meet/Hangout Data, August 31-September 10:
  - 22,549 Zoom sessions.
  - 603 Google Meet/Hangout sessions
  - Total of 23,152 sessions (average of 2.9 sessions per day per GUSD teacher)

Primary Student Assessments
- Assessments 1:1
- Running records or screeners for reading level
- Weekly and unit exams
- Small group assessments
- i-Ready Diagnostic - some teachers assign during asynchronous time, some teachers monitor students in the whole class or in small group
- Checking for understanding on white boards
- Formative assessments tools such as Nearpod, Seesaw, Google Forms and district adopted curriculum platforms

EQUITY BY DESIGN
Social Emotional/Mental Health Support

The National Association of School Psychologist defines trauma-informed practices as fostering a feeling of safety, where trustworthiness, collaboration, empowerment, and acknowledgment of students' personal, social, cultural, and life experiences are present.

- It's all about relationships
  - Red Carpet Welcome Week
- Make your students feel safe, valued and part of the fabric of the virtual community. We can support students to downshift from a fearful state to a calmer one by using:
  - Predictable routines
  - Positive interactions
  - Elevating student voice
- Individual counseling and support groups are offered at all schools and by grade level
- Weekly parent/guardian support groups offered at each school site
- Clinician and/or mental health interns assigned to all GUSD schools to connect with students in need and to build positive relationships with students, staff, and family members
- QPR (Question-Persuade-Refer) training for parents/guardians, employees, and community
- Weekly mindfulness lesson plans and videos provided to students

EQUITY BY DESIGN
Child Care During the Pandemic - Technology Learning Pods

"We learned very early during the pandemic that our parents who were essential workers, parents who could not work from home, parents who had multiple kids, and parents with limited English skills, had a dire need for child care."

A survey was sent to the parent/guardians in the summer. More than 2600 families indicated that child care would be a critical need if schools were to reopen in a distance learning environment. Based on this expressed need, the Technology Learning Pod was developed.

- Technology Learning Pods offered at all 20 elementary schools for grades K-6th
- 97 pods opened on August 19, 2020 staffed with 76 substitute teachers, 191 Ed Assistants, 40 staff members for individual students with special needs, and an additional 35 staff members are serving in an on-campus support role
- Maximum 12 students per pod
- Each student in the pod provided with a Chromebook, headphones with microphones, and school supplies
- Breakfast and lunch are delivered to the classrooms; meals and child care are free of charge
- Temperature is taken daily for students and staff
- Students wear masks and attend on-campus pods during their regular school hours, Monday through Friday
- Visitors are not allowed on campus
- An additional 66 staff members are providing extended child care until 5:30 pm

Shift expectations and extend kindness inward and outward

Act courageously now so we can come back differently

Ultimate Question:
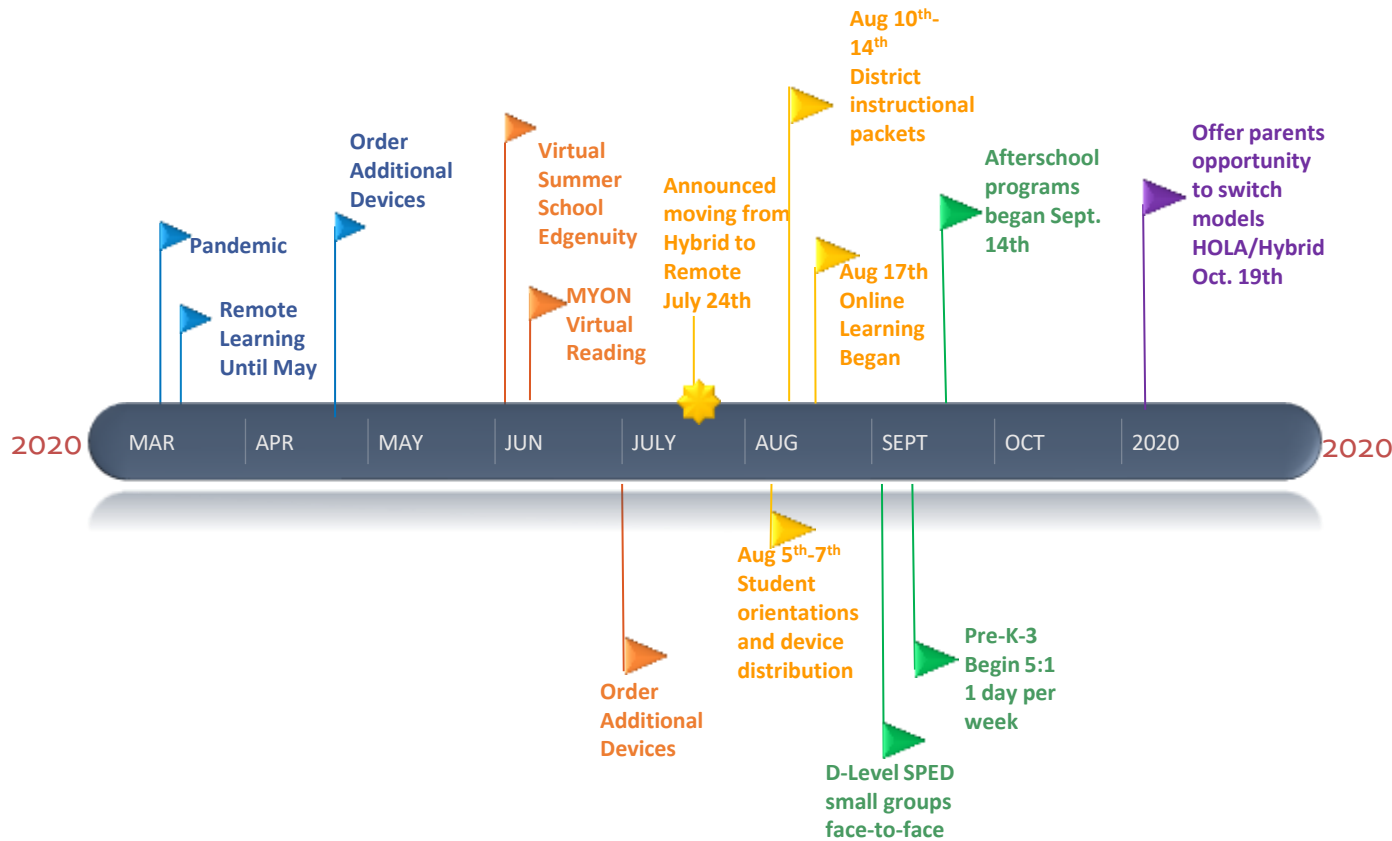**Are we willing to use this opportunity to create the kind of educational system we want?**

The Hobbs Way

Hobbs Municipal Schools response to COVID-19

(Re-Entry Plan)

Re-Entry Timeline

Pandemic

Remote Learning Until May

Order Additional Devices

Virtual Summer School Edgenuity

MYON Virtual Reading

Order Additional Devices

Announced moving from Hybrid to Remote July 24th

Aug 5th-7th Student orientations and device distribution

Aug 10th-14th District instructional packets

Aug 17th Online Learning Began

D-Level SPED small groups face-to-face

Afterschool programs began Sept. 14th

Pre-K-3 Begin 5:1 1 day per week

Offer parents opportunity to switch models HOLA/Hybrid Oct. 19th

2020

MAR   APR   MAY   JUN   JULY   AUG   SEPT   OCT   2020

2020

Communication

- Facebook
- Twitter @Hobbs_Schools
- Instagram: hobbs_municipal_schools
- Website
- Parent Communication App
- You tube
- Zoom
- parkstj@hobbsschools.net
- Phonecalls
- School messenger
- Newspaper
- Peachjar
- Student Information Parent Portal

- 2 Public Relations staff to support communication

Stakeholder Engagement

Parent/Student

- **Parent Teacher Conferences-** Face-to-face and virtual
- [Daily Virtual Check-in K-2](#) [3rd -5th](#) via parent communication app access social emotional state
- **Technology** department support on Tues. and Thurs.
- **[Video Recordings](#)**
- **Zoom-** synchronous and asynchronous
- [Parent Resource Page](#)
- **Quaver** SEL for students
- **Childcare supports**
  - Partner with Regional Educational Coop
  - Partner with local daycare to provide technology support
  - Daycares expanded age range
  - Partner with local churches

Teacher/Admin

- [Teacher Resource Page](#)
- [Elementary Admin Resource Page](#)
- **Achieve Excellence(AE-Rising)** increase retention of early career teachers
- **CIMs**- Campus instructional Mentors- instructional curriculum support staff at each campus
- Supported by 4 instructional coaches and 1 technology coach
- **SEL** for Leaders and Staff
- 80 hours PD
  - [Backwards planning video](#)
  - [District Offerings](#)
  - LETRS
  - Dyslexia 1st grade

Equity of Access
Providing supports to At-Risk Students

- Provided Free breakfast and lunch since March including bussing to rural areas
- Purchase school supply backpacks for all At-Risk Students
- Weekend Hunger Initiative (WHI-Hobbs) – weekend food supply
- Monthly meetings with the District Equity Council to solicit input and feedback on reentry plan
- Reallocated Social Workers and Counselors to ensure daily coverage at each campus
- SPED and EL supports face-to-face and virtual
- Technology purchases
  - Tablets Pre-K
  - Laptops K-3
  - Hotspots for those indicating no WI-FI access

Curriculum and Instruction

- **Assessment (Current Phase)**

Pre-K
- ECOT-Early Childhood Observation Tool
- Health Screening
- Brigance

Istation –K-3- ISIP Reading Assessment
English and Spanish

Renaissance Programs
- MYON- Lexile
- STAR- Reading assessment

- **Instruction and Intervention (Next Steps)**

Pre-K
- ECOT- utilized to guide small group instruction
- School nurses communicate with parents on health screening outcomes
- Brigance helps to identify developmental gaps

Istation –K-3- utilized to identify instructional support needs of student in reading

Renaissance Programs (MYON and STAR)
- Utilized to improve Reading utilizing digital books from individualized selection
  - 3.54K books completed between May 23rd – Aug. 16th
  - 28,000 books since Aug. 16th

All students are offered afterschool tutoring

Discussion

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Questions & Discussion

Upcoming GLR Learning Tuesdays Webinars:

LEARNING LOSS RECOVERY WEBINAR

What Early Educators Could Teach Parents, Teachers and the Rest of Us and Why It Matters Now

Tuesday, October 6, 3 p.m. ET/12 p.m. PT

LEARNING LOSS RECOVERY WEBINAR

Scaling Solutions for The Childcare Crisis: Technology and Shared Services

Tuesday, October 13, 12:30 p.m. ET/9:30 a.m. PT

LEARNING LOSS RECOVERY WEBINAR

Telenovela As Teacher: Univision and Too Small To Fail Reaching Parents Where They Are

Tuesday, October 13, 3 p.m. ET/12 p.m. PT

GLR
Learning
Tuesdays

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