

Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan Template (2020–21)

The instructions for completing the Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan is available at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/re/lc/documents/lrngcntntyatndncpln-instructions.docx>.

Local Educational Agency (LEA) Name	Contact Name and Title	Email and Phone
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General Information

[A description of the impact the COVID-19 pandemic has had on the LEA and its community.]

The DVUSD School Board, citing COVID-19, voted to close schools to actual physical attendance on March 16, 2020. Distance learning took effect the next day, on March 17. The LEA had to restructure its educational practices and develop ways to ensure the continuity of food service to needy students. Also, since the closure of the campuses, DVUSD has had 25% of teachers resign, citing concern for COVID-19. Other employees, including teachers, have expressed concern for the spread of COVID-19 and have communicated that they may choose to leave their employment due to their concerns/fears, but as of this writing they remain employed at DVUSD. Local employers have laid off workers and nearly closed down altogether, which has resulted in some DVUSD student families moving out of Death Valley and into Nevada. Thus, DVUSD student enrollment has dropped approximately 30%. Most local businesses are operating under a limited capacity or have seen their customer base shrivel to almost nothing, as many businesses here depend upon the presence of European tourists. Many stakeholders, especially parents, have expressed their preference that students not physically attend school for the 2020 Fall Semester, while a few have expressed preference that their students do attend school. Most have expressed great concern about the potential spread of COVID-19 and have stated their perspective on how to safeguard students while they are in classrooms, on a school bus, and at lunch and recess.

Stakeholder Engagement

[A description of the efforts made to solicit stakeholder feedback.]

DVUSD added a community liaison in order to ensure effective in-person communications between stakeholders and the District. This liaison engages with various stakeholders to answer their questions, understand their perspectives and communicate the latest information from DVUSD teachers and administration. Also, DVUSD administration maintains direct communications with stakeholders via phone, text

messaging and emails. With our community of stakeholders being so very small, it is common for DVUSD to have direct communications with stakeholders a couple to several times per week. Each communication includes a solicitation of feedback from the stakeholder as to their perspective, needs and desires with DVUSD.

[A description of the options provided for remote participation in public meetings and public hearings.]

Remote participation is provided via speaker phone, cell phone and Google Meets. As of this writing, only a Board member has participated in a meeting in the manner.

[A summary of the feedback provided by specific stakeholder groups.]

Stakeholders have expressed appreciation and satisfaction that school meals have been delivered to students throughout the lockdown. Most have appreciated the educational efforts employed by the District. Also, most have indicated that they do not wish students to attend school until such time as they feel more safe from the pandemic. Further, nearly all have expressed the need for flexible scheduling and due dates for assignments.

[A description of the aspects of the Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan that were influenced by specific stakeholder input.]

Stakeholders appreciate having multiple means of communicating with DVUSD, but also expressed a desire to have a regular contact person, time and place. Thus, the DVUSD community liaison position was created.

Continuity of Learning

In-Person Instructional Offerings

[A description of the actions the LEA will take to offer classroom-based instruction whenever possible, particularly for students who have experienced significant learning loss due to school closures in the 2019–2020 school year or are at a greater risk of experiencing learning loss due to future school closures.]

DVUSD is prepared with faculty and faculty aides to provide classroom-based instruction as soon as legally possible. Currently, the District's Small Cohort Services Plan allows for classroom-based instruction, under safety guidelines, for SPED and EL students. For when it becomes allowable, the District has a plan to offer classroom-based instruction for all students that includes a modified school schedule. This schedule separates the District's three main community areas such that students from each do not attend school at the same time. Also, the plan involves have small numbers of students in a classroom, thus improving the teacher-student ratio and creating better opportunity to make up for learning loss.

Actions Related to In-Person Instructional Offerings [additional rows and actions may be added as necessary]

Description	Total Funds	Contributing
Improve district facilities in Death Valley to allow use by students and staff to allow for in person instruction while keeping different regional populations seperate.	34,590	No
Purchase PPE for students and staff.	500	No
Purchase cleaning supplies and equipment	2000	No

Distance Learning Program

Continuity of Instruction

[A description of how the LEA will provide continuity of instruction during the school year to ensure pupils have access to a full curriculum of substantially similar quality regardless of the method of delivery, including the LEA’s plan for curriculum and instructional resources that will ensure instructional continuity for pupils if a transition between in-person instruction and distance learning is necessary.]

DVUSD added a part-time Curriculum Technician position and hired a former DVUSD for this position. This person, along with the DVUSD principal, ensure DVUSD provides a full curriculum for all grades levels and all courses. They also coordinate the method of delivery per each student's ability to access the internet. All DVA students grades 7-12 have been issued Chrome Books and school Google email accounts. The District's overall approach, for grades K-12, is to establish and maintain distance learning like a correspondence or independent study course, with faculty providing texts, lesson materials, instructions, and pacing guidelines. On top of this foundation of learning, faculty add online learning, if accessible to the student, project-based learning activities to make sure learning experiences are substantially similar to that of classroom-based instruction.

Access to Devices and Connectivity

[A description of how the LEA will ensure access to devices and connectivity for all pupils to support distance learning.]

DVUSD added hot spot devices in each region of the District. While this helps with a few students, it does not truly solve connectivity issues, which are currently very difficult in the remote circumstances in which DVUSD students live. Thus, there is no way to ensure connectivity. DVUSD issued Chrome Books to all students grades 7-12, so at least students may be able to connect when in an area with service.

Pupil Participation and Progress

[A description of how the LEA will assess pupil progress through live contacts and synchronous instructional minutes, and a description of how the LEA will measure participation and time value of pupil work.]

The DVUSD Liaison makes in-person contact with all DVUSD student families twice weekly. Approximately every other week, the principal accompanies the District Liaison to meet face-to-face with students and parents. Given the extremely small enrollment at DVUSD, synchronous instructional minutes may consist solely of one-on-one Facetime communications with students. Lesson units are designed and evaluated in terms how many instructional minutes they would take in the classroom, and they are graded accordingly.

Distance Learning Professional Development

[A description of the professional development and resources that will be provided to staff to support the distance learning program, including technological support.]

Inyo County Office of Education offers frequent opportunities for professional development in distance learning. These sessions are provided for DVUSD faculty and aides.

Staff Roles and Responsibilities

[A description of the new roles and responsibilities of affected staff as a result of COVID-19.]

DVUSD has new roles and responsibilities for some staff members, as follows: a transportation employee is now also the DVUSD community liaison. A classroom aide proficient in the use of technology is now an IT assistant to help faculty gain better proficiency in the use of certain types of technology.

Supports for Pupils with Unique Needs

[A description of the additional supports the LEA will provide during distance learning to assist pupils with unique needs, including English learners, pupils with exceptional needs served across the full continuum of placements, pupils in foster care, and pupils who are experiencing homelessness.]

Actions related to the Distance Learning Program [additional rows and actions may be added as necessary]

Description	Total Funds	Contributing
Hire Part Time Curriculum Tech	25,000	No
Issue Chrome books and Set students up with google account/email to establish a platform for distance learning and communication.	0	Yes

Description	Total Funds	Contributing
Issue Hotspots to students where service is available.	0	Yes
Person to person contact made twice weekly between DV staff and district students/parents.	15,000	No

Pupil Learning Loss

[A description of how the LEA will address pupil learning loss that results from COVID-19 during the 2019–2020 and 2020–21 school years, including how the LEA will assess pupils to measure learning status, particularly in the areas of English language arts, English language development, and mathematics.]

DVUSD will measure learning status via a combination of completed assignments, assessments that accompany adopted texts, assessments available online (purchased or free) and teacher-created materials.

Pupil Learning Loss Strategies

[A description of the actions and strategies the LEA will use to address learning loss and accelerate learning progress for pupils, as needed, including how these strategies differ for pupils who are English learners; low-income; foster youth; pupils with exceptional needs; and pupils experiencing homelessness.]

DVUSD has built into its daily school schedule, which will be implemented when students return to campus, two study hall period per day, one of 18 minute duration and one of 27. These periods will provide instructional opportunities to address areas of educational need.

Effectiveness of Implemented Pupil Learning Loss Strategies

[A description of how the effectiveness of the services or supports provided to address learning loss will be measured.]

Measures of effectiveness will include student attendance, student assessment results, student and parent feedback.

Actions to Address Pupil Learning Loss [additional rows and actions may be added as necessary]

Description	Total Funds	Contributing
Assess student learning loss through the monitoring of student assignments and assessment's.	0	No

Description	Total Funds	Contributing
Build in two study hall periods into Death Valley's schedule once in-person learning resumes.	0	No

Mental Health and Social and Emotional Well-Being

[A description of how the LEA will monitor and support mental health and social and emotional well-being of pupils and staff during the school year, including the professional development and resources that will be provided to pupils and staff to address trauma and other impacts of COVID-19 on the school community.]

Mental health monitoring begins with twice weekly direct contacts between the DVUSD Community Liaison and each district family. Following these visits the liaison communicates needs of both adults and students to appropriate district personnel. This would include the principal, the counselor and the District's Spanish Language Liaison when appropriate.

Referrals are then made to appropriate service providers while recognizing that no direct mental health services are available in the eastern end of Inyo County. In addition, the medical clinic that served the eastern end of the County was shut down leaving residents with no local medical care and no MediCal providers less than 140 miles away.

The District provides its resources to needy families as well as to local residents feeling the effects of the pandemic. DVUSD has become more than a curriculum delivery system -- Rather, DVUSD has become a quasi social services provide to fill in a void not met by any other state or county services in our area.

Pupil and Family Engagement and Outreach

[A description of pupil engagement and outreach, including the procedures for tiered reengagement strategies for pupils who are absent from distance learning and how the LEA will provide outreach to pupils and their parents or guardians, including in languages other than English, when pupils are not meeting compulsory education requirements, or if the LEA determines the pupil is not engaging in instruction and is at risk of learning loss.]

DVUSD created a Community Liaison position. This position provides for in-person outreach twice per week. DVUSD also has a special liaison for Spanish-speaking families. Both of these persons communicate to parents about education requirements, student progress and lack thereof, attendance issues, and the latest updates involving the operation of DVUSD. Procedures for tiered reengagement strategies for pupils who are absent from distance learning remain flexible, but include: one-on-one instruction, individualized scheduling, and a student-centered approach in terms of improving engagement, interest and motivation. DVUSD is developing incentives to be earned as a student remains or becomes a "student in good standing".

School Nutrition

[A description of how the LEA will provide nutritionally adequate meals for all pupils, including those students who are eligible for free or reduced-price meals, when pupils are participating in both in-person instruction and distance learning, as applicable.]

Beginning March 18, 2020 through today's date DVUSD has provided packaged meals, home delivered to all families in the district. This program is tentatively scheduled to continue for the remainder of the calendar year. For those students who are attending a school facility either under the Small Cohort Services Plan or in the event a hybrid learning model is allowable and board approved then meals will be provided following county and state guidelines.

Meals will be prepared in accordance with state nutritional guidelines, free of charge with home deliveries twice per week.

Additional Actions to Implement the Learning Continuity Plan [additional rows and actions may be added as necessary]

Section	Description	Total Funds	Contributing
N/A	N/A	N/A	

Section	Description	Total Funds	Contributing

Increased or Improved Services for Foster Youth, English Learners, and Low-Income Students

Percentage to Increase or Improve Services	Increased Apportionment based on the Enrollment of Foster Youth, English Learners, and Low-Income students
%	

Required Descriptions

[For the actions being provided to an entire school, or across the entire school district or county office of education (COE), an explanation of (1) how the needs of foster youth, English learners, and low-income students were considered first, and (2) how these actions are effective in meeting the needs of these students.]

The vast majority of students in DVUSD qualify for the free-and-reduced-lunch program. Thus, the needs of low-income students are always considered first. To meet the needs of English Learners, DVUSD employees 3 Spanish-speaking aides as well as a Spanish-speaking school-to-home communications liaison. These aides, under the direction of CLAD certified faculty, assist newer speakers of English. There are currently no foster youth in DVUSD.

[A description of how services for foster youth, English learners, and low-income students are being increased or improved by the percentage required.]

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