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COVID-19 Operations Written Report for Leonardo da Vinci Health Sciences Charter

Local Educational Agency (LEA) Name | Contact Name and Title | Email and Phone | Date of Adoption
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Leonardo da Vinci Health Sciences Charter | Josh Stepner Principal/Director | josh.stepner@davincicharter.org 619.420.0066 ext. 350900 |

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.

As a result of mandated school closures in March of 2020, LdVCS created a distance learning program to ensure delivery of instruction to students during the physical closure of our school campus. Distance learning, also called distance education, e-learning, and online learning is a form of education in which the main elements include physical separation of teachers and students during instruction and the use of various technologies to facilitate student-teacher and student-student communication. LdVCS teachers met with students using Zoom technology to provide direct teacher instruction for 2 hours a day five days per week beginning on March 16, 2020. LdVCS staff were expected to take daily attendance to make sure students needs were met during this closure. The reason for participation tracking and attendance is to ensure our students are safe during the school closure period. We want to make sure they have access to technology, internet access, and the educational resources necessary to be successful during distance learning. All student assignments were communicated to LdVCS stakeholders through the use of Google Classroom (3-6) and Seesaw (K-2). Technology was distributed to families who provided information about a need through a school-wide technology survey. Families who lacked internet connectivity were given the opportunity to use cell phone hotspots to connect to the internet in the absence of a wifi signal in the home. The goal at LdVCS is to provide all students with adaptability and freedom, self-inspiration, the flexibility to choose instructional pathways, and easy to access digital resources. Student expectations for digital learning included the following: Checking weekly or daily home learning assignments through Google Classroom and Seesaw and asking questions when students are confused. We want students to understand what they are working to complete and have purpose for working through assignments and projects. Students were asked to complete their assignments each school day, to do their best work and not sweat the small stuff. Keeping track of time and taking breaks as necessary, were suggestions given to alleviate the anxiety associated with a change in program instruction methods. We also asked students to incorporate playing outside during breaks to listen to music, cook or bake with parents, or to simply help more at home. Our goal is to support the social distancing initiative throughout our country at this time to help flatten the curve and save lives. It is important that we all do our best to adhere to these guidelines, even in the professional setting. That creates many unique challenges to each role, which will test our patience and flexibility. Clarity around how each role will be utilized continues to come over time. For now, the distance learning initiative is centered on the teacher launching with support staff collaboration. This approach was successful for our community which was reflected in a parent survey administered in June of 2020.
Provide a description of how the LEA is meeting the needs of its English learners, foster youth and low-income students.

LdVCS staff will distribute technology devices such as ChromeBooks or iPads to students who do not have access to these devices at home. Additionally, LdVCS will assist in providing internet access to families needing connectivity ability in the home. LdVCS has a homeless student liaison who provided consistent information on resources for food, shelter, and emergency services in the community. LdVCS provided uninterrupted response to intervention support for English Language Learners through designated English language development instruction that consisted of separate Zoom meetings with our ELD coordinator. This instruction happened outside of the regular Zoom meetings conducted in their grade level classroom. Our RtI staff also supported ELL's in their regular classroom Zoom meetings to provide support. At times, the classroom teacher would provide a separate break out room during classroom Zoom instruction to reinforce necessary elements of the activity and support our ELL's. Regular school lunch services continued during the school closure period with LdVCS families using one of nine school sites in our district to receive lunch for the current day and breakfast for the following. LdVCS administration was present to assist with distribution of meals and to provide moral support to our families during this unprecedented time. LdVCS has instructional aides who speak both English and Spanish. The IA's were able to provide translation, support with the comprehension of literature, to provide context in classroom discussions happening in real time, and offer an added level of support necessary to maintain organization and understanding during the transition to distance learning. LdVCS staff provided all information in both English and Spanish. This included the weekly updates provided by the director, any updates on program changes, dates and times for important Zoom meetings where updates were provided, announcements and messages distributed by recorded calls were also translated into Spanish. Multi-tiered systems of support were communicated to all families which were provided as outside options for counseling, housing assistance, emergency services for domestic violence and child abuse, and assistance with clothing and home goods. Our partnership with the Chula Vista Community Collaborative was not interrupted during the school closure and all LdVCS stakeholders had information and access to the resources provided by CVCC. LdVCS also contracts with Southbay Community Services to assist our families (https://southbaycommunityservices.org/).

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

Leonardo da Vinci Health Sciences Charter School staff believe that it is essential for educators to continue to create and maintain positive relationships with students and families who may be experiencing stress related to COVID-19. The principal, Board of Directors and staff play a key role in organizing efforts to support all students in feeling connected to their school during Distance Learning. One of our main focuses as a staff was to provide a sensible and consistent multi-tiered systems of support beginning with the classroom teacher. Teachers focused on the mental health of students and meeting their emotional needs by connecting with them daily and asking the important questions. The social and emotional health of our students was the first order of business. After making sure that food, shelter, and safety were provided for all students, LdVCS staff focused on a robust and complete distance learning program. LdVCS teachers met with students using Zoom technology to provide direct teacher instruction for 2 hours a day five days per week beginning on March 16, 2020. LdVCS staff were expected to take daily attendance to make sure students needs were met during this closure. The reason for participation tracking and attendance is to ensure our students are safe during the school closure period. We want to make sure they have access to technology, internet access, and the educational resources necessary to be successful during distance learning. All student assignments were communicated to LdVCS stakeholders through the use of Google Classroom (3-6) and Seesaw (K-2). Technology was distributed to families
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Provide a description of the steps that have been taken by the LEA to provide school meals while maintaining social distancing practices.

| Due to the extraordinary circumstances that our families are facing, the LdVCS will extend its “grab-and-go” meal service through the entire school closure period. The meal distribution will take place at nine school sites across the region. Families will only need to make one trip to the closest school location to pick up lunch and breakfast for the next day for children ages 1 to 18. Each school location was listed along with the address and telephone number for contact and travel purposes. The hours extended from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (noon) each day. Meals were distributed by school district employees using all social distancing strategies. All employees distributing food wore facial masks and gloves. Hand sanitizer and washing stations were readily available as well. As cars arrived, the employee handed each car a pre-filled package of food items for lunch on that day and breakfast for the following day. Person to person contact was minimal if at all. There is a requirement for students receiving the meals to be physically present. Meals were served cold and needed to be reheated at home. Additional resources were communicated as follows: For additional Food Resources, please review the options listed below. Both the Jacobs & Cushman San Diego Food Bank and Feeding San Diego are operating as usual. By calling 211, clients can provide their address and be directed to the closest food distribution in their area. The San Diego Food Bank website will direct to their distribution sites as contained on the 211 website (https://my211.force.com/s/service-directory?code=BD). Assistance from CalFresh program and local CalFresh application assistance continue to operate as normal. Benefits will be received by enrollees as normal. Feeding San Diego continues to offer application assistance, however, all appointments will be conducted via telephone or Zoom conference. Feeding San Diego will not host any in-person visits or workshops. We also informed our community that The San Diego Hunger Coalition is putting together a COVID-19 food assistance-specific webpage, where visitors can get updated information on food distribution sites, CalFresh updates, CalWORKS updates, and WIC. They will also have opportunities for advocacy regarding emergency food funds from the State and Federal levels (www.sandieghungercoalition.org). LdVCS families were also given specific information on the application process for a pandemic EBT card that would provide further financial assistance in acquiring food. |

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

| LdVCS was able to provide 10 hours a week of direct supervision of students during the regular school day via teleconference meetings. LdVCS students were also responsible for physical education and Spanish classes daily. This was four complete hours of supervision of students during the regular school day. Two regular hours during the school day were supervised with parents as LdVCS needed to provide time for families to drive to school site locations to secure lunch and breakfast daily. These hours were supervised by parents or guardians. LdVCS was unable to provide childcare to essential workers due to lack of a physical space. LdVCS rents facilities from the Chula Vista Elementary School District and is currently located at 229 East Naples Street. This is a CVESD school facility entitled Kellogg Elementary School. LdVCS and Kellogg Elementary share the school site located at 229 East Naples Street in Chula Vista. CVESD district personnel |

closed all of the school campuses in accordance with the county stay-at-home order. LdVCS worked in unison with CVESD as our facility provider.