

# COVID-19 Operations Written Report for Bass Lake Joint Union Elementary School District

Local Educational Agency (LEA) Name	Contact Name and Title	Email and Phone	Date of Adoption
Bass Lake Joint Union Elementary School District	Randall M. Seals Superintendent	rseals@basslakesd.org 559.642.1555	June 3, 2020

**Descriptions provided should include sufficient detail yet be 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.

In response to school closures due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, Bass Lake Joint Union Elementary School District adopted a distance learning plan for its students and families. The primary goal of the plan is to provide a combination of academic enrichment and review of key concepts and critical standards already presented via direct instruction, and the presentation of powerful and engaging blended learning education. The primary focus of the plan is to master the English Language Arts and Mathematics Common Core State Standards, with a secondary focus on mastering the Next Generation Science Standards and Social Science Standards. Students with IEPs and English Language Learners were provided Chromebooks to accommodate their unique learning needs during the first week of distance learning. Local telecommunications service provider, Sierra Tel, began offering free internet service for qualifying families in the community to aid in connectivity.

School closures began on March 16. During that week, teachers and instructional staff began preparing the first round of distance learning materials which relied heavily upon hard-copy curriculum materials, worksheets, and assignments, with digital supplemental materials and activities. Just a few short weeks later, when it was announced that schools would remain closed for the duration of the 2019-2020 school year, Instructional Technology staff prepared the District's Chromebooks for disbursement to students at home. While the focus of the plan did not shift with this change, the nature of assignments, lessons, and activities became more technology focused and embedded. Teachers and instructional staff began virtual office hours and instruction. Such sessions to improve instruction and learning, while also increasing opportunities for meaningful engagement and communication. Such sessions, conducted on communications platforms such as Google Meet and Zoom, provide students opportunities for socialization with peers and teachers alike. Students who previously were participants in the PBIS Tier 2 and Tier 3 programs received, at minimum, weekly checkups by their social-emotional development staff and/or counselor. The District remains committed to providing students with social-emotional learning opportunities and support.

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

The Bass Lake Joint Union Elementary School district has continued to provide low-income students, Foster Youth, and English learners with targeted instruction and support services to ensure that each and every student has the opportunity to meet or exceed the California State Standards. Teachers and staff continue to provide for the needs of their students through the use of a variety of educational and communications platforms, including Google Meet, Google Classroom, Flip Grid, Class Dojo, and SeeSaw. Teachers have spent countless hours creating videos for instructional purposes. A combination of small group and one-on-one virtual meetings were scheduled weekly. ELL students were provided support in lessons and activities that were focused on oral language, reading comprehension, writing, and art. Intervention support was delivered via software programs and applications including LEXIA, Dreambox, Khan Academy, Prodigy, Common Core Literature, Wonders ELA, My Math, and Epic.

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

The Bass Lake Joint Union Elementary School District's instructional staff have delivered high-quality, engaging distance learning opportunities to each and every student by maintaining regular personal, individualized contact with each student, and by providing a comprehensive learning experience. Teachers collaborate regularly to plan and implement their grade level's instructional plan in either one-week or two-week intervals, depending on school site. Instructional packets are designed and prepared for parents at scheduled pick-up times on campus, though with social distancing measures in place. The emphasis of the district's distance learning plan is "The Essentials", which are centered on English Language Arts and Mathematics, by providing review, direct instruction of new material, and enrichment activities for each and every student. Teachers quickly adapted to the use of technology for imparting distance learning instruction and providing blended learning activities. Teachers and other instructional staff deliver instruction and support through the use of Google Meet, Zoom, Google Classroom, Class Dojo, Screencastify, Pear Deck, Flip Grid, and/or See Saw platforms. Weekly virtual class meetings include one-on-one and small group instruction delivered at minimum 1-3 times per week district-wide. Teacher-developed videos are assigned, which provide direct instruction for new material and review. Additionally, teachers and staff have met and collaborated with parents to enhance parent involvement between school and home, even during this time of school closure.

The Resource Specialist teachers have created specific instructional packets for all students currently on active IEPs and these students connect with their teachers and support staff weekly. Special education para-educators are instrumental in providing instructional support for students and parents via online communications applications, telephone calls, emails, and/or video chats.

The District Bilingual Family Liaison collaborates with classroom teachers to assist in providing instruction and assistance to ELL parents and families to navigate and support the home-school environment. The liaison is a critical link between the community's schools and our ELL community.

Tier 1 social-emotional learning lessons are included in each week's workload. Tier 2 small group instruction and lessons are accessed by students via Google Classroom. Social-emotional learning and support remains a primary concern and focus throughout this period of school closure. Social-emotional support staff and counselors are in regular contact with their students.

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

The Bass Lake Joint Union Elementary School District has partnered with neighboring Yosemite Unified School District to provide meals to students while maintaining social distancing practices. Because government authorities decided to operate school meals during school closure through the Summer Assistance Program, and since YUSD has historically provided meals to the community's students through that program, it was agreed that YUSD would conduct the meal program, just as they do each summer. A few days into the school closure, it was realized that relatively few meals were being received by students at school sites. It was decided to transport meals to various high-density bus stop locations in the hopes of increasing daily meal disbursement. In the first day, YUSD more than doubled their meal distribution utilizing the new distribution plan. It was then decided that BLJUESD would send its district's drivers to pick up meals and distribute throughout the Bass Lake District in locations that YUSD simply could not reach. The partnership between the districts has been a tremendous development for the community's children, with hundreds of meals being disbursed on each day of delivery.

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

The Bass Lake Joint Union Elementary School District does not provide childcare services either independently or through a private contractor. Instead, District staff has provided a number of daily opportunities for students to engage with teachers, staff, and peers during ordinary school hours. Google Meet and/or Zoom sessions are held multiple times each week for each class. These come in the form of whole class, small groups, and/or one-on-one. Some Google Meets are held with the singular purpose of providing opportunities for students to socialize with peers. Multiple teachers host sessions for online reading of stories and picture books. Teachers also host their own "office hours" utilizing Google Meet or Zoom during which time they may provide students critical support, instruction, or intervention.

The District's Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS) system remains in place, even in the distance learning environment. Students meet with the PBIS para-educators at arranged times. Students are acknowledged via Class Dojo postings and may earn Dojo points for participating in class sessions and meetings, or by simply completing assignments. Parents also may earn Dojo points and positive feedback for their efforts as the home-school teacher. Schools in BLJUESD have held virtual spirit weeks, continued to celebrate Tie-Dye Tuesdays (Wasuma), created sing-along videos featuring staff members, sponsored community garden work day (Wasuma) with staggered invitations for families to work while maintaining proper social distancing. Great effort has been made to engage students and their families during ordinary school hours, albeit in a distance learning online environment.