RISING TO THE CHALLENGE

In this difficult time, LACOE remains committed to improving the lives of students and our educational community through service, leadership and advocacy. Here, we share best practices, tips and success stories from the county's 80 districts as we innovate and adapt together to ensure continuity of learning and safety of students, staff and families.

Child Care for Essential Workers

LACOE and the LA County Early Childhood Education COVID-19 Response Team are making child care more accessible for essential workers. Families can access local child care by calling toll-free 888-92CHILD (922-4453) or visiting ECE COVID-19 Resource Page at lacoe.edu/childcare.

Read "L.A. County partnership addresses critical need for child care among essential workers"

Student Voices: "Why I'm Social Distancing"

Arcadia USD students of all ages created a public service announcement to share the importance of social distancing with their peers. The effort was led by Kate Fletcher, an Arcadia High School sophomore, who did most of the producing and editing. Watch Arcadia USD PSA on YouTube (2 1/2 min.).

L.A. Times Highlights Inglewood Food Distributions

Inglewood USD's efforts to feed students and the community were highlighted in a video report by the L.A. Times. Teacher and volunteer Aba Ngissah noted, "If we don't help each other out . . . then what's the point?" IUSD also distributed "Boxes of Love" with food and resources donated by Faithful Central Bible Church to students experiencing homelessness and their families. Watch L.A. Times video on YouTube (3 min.). See more photos from Inglewood on Instagram.

Maintaining Connections through Video

Schools and districts across the county are utilizing web video to stay connected with their communities. At Bonita USD, teachers and staff from Grace Miller Elementary created a special video message for students to feel connected during the extended school closure. At Whittier Union HSD, Pioneer High School has transitioned its weekly student news program to become Titan News from Home. Run by student leaders, teachers and administrators, the program shares updates on what staff is doing, resources available and how to keep engaged. At Paramount USD, Odyssey STEM Academy's innovative setup has enabled educators to rapidly transition to distance learning. The school is continuing lessons with 90% scholar participation through Zoom teleconferencing, continued access to mentors and stay-at-home-based projects. Meanwhile, at Bonita USD, more than 2,000 Chromebooks were provided to students via drive-up service to assist with distance learning. Watch Bonita USD message on YouTube (8 1/2 min.). Watch Whittier USD's Titan News from Home on YouTube (17 min.).

Lynwood's Distance Educator of the Week

At Lynwood USD, Lugo Elementary School fifth- and sixth-grade teacher Cindy Quinones isn't just instructing students these days. She's also holding informal classes for other educators. "I know the transition to distance learning presents a different challenge for everyone," Quinones said. "So it's important we work together." Read more on the Lynwood USD site or Facebook.

Community Speaker Series for Children & Families

Resources for Families & Schools

Don't forget, LACOE is regularly updating several pages of resources:

- COVID-19 Resources for Schools
- Resources for Children from Birth to Five
- Educational Resources for Parents & Teachers

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Share photos, tips or experiences from your school or school district: communications@lacoe.edu