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.

Students Speak Out, Stand Up to Hate
Alhambra USD students in this PSA video speak out against racial hatred. Created weeks ago in response to race-based bullying related to the COVID-19 pandemic, the video was coincidentally released right after George Floyd's death in police custody. It resonates at a time of national reckoning over racism, inequality and police violence.

Watch the video (1 min.)
Read the story in Alhambra Source

Teachable Moments
We can turn recent events into powerful teachable moments. It's during these challenging times that educators are needed the most.

Access our Resources on Equity, Social Justice and Engagement

Civic Learning resources may be found on our Democracy School web page

Art from a Distance
Teacher Jennifer Hodge has created a digital art show featuring the work of her cartooning and studio art students at Benton Middle School, a visual and performing arts magnet in the Norwalk La Mirada USD. All the pieces were created, photographed and submitted from home as part of a distance learning course. "It is my hope as their teacher that you see resilience and the spirit of a young person persevering during these unprecedented times."

Watch the digital art show (4 min.)

Art, Tech and TikTok
Young artist Ysabel Meza, a junior at Littlerock High School in the Antelope Valley Union HSD, interprets how the pandemic has changed the world. Her teacher Ms. Malikian describes her piece as "the most accomplished work of art I have ever seen" in recent years.

Known for its focus on STEM, the district has joined the Antelope Valley COVID-19 Task Force. Engineering teachers are working on 3D-printed PPE for health care workers. Meanwhile, Antelope Valley Union HSD Superintendent David Vierra and other district leaders concluded Mental Health Awareness Month with a message of encouragement on TikTok: "Be the Sunshine."

Read story about the district's COVID-19 community partnership
Watch the Antelope Valley Union HSD's TikTok premiere

Tips for Talking to Kids About Traumatic Events
As anger and heartbreak have swept the nation, young people will turn to adults for guidance on how to react.

Here are more tips and resources to support our youth during this crisis

Students Lead the Way with Gratitude
Gratitude can be a powerful tool for resilience during these challenging times. Student leaders (ASB) at Hart High School in the William Hart Union HSD created a video to show teachers how much they are appreciated: "Thank you for educating, inspiring and motivating us...and believing in all of us."

Watch the video (3 min.)

Summer Learning Initiative: Call for Proposals
The California Community Foundation, in partnership with LACOE and The Greater LA Education Foundation (Greater LA), seeks proposals from LEAs and nonprofits in LA County to support summer learning opportunities for low-income and vulnerable K-12 students. The $1 million grant is made possible through the CCF COVID-19 LA County Response Fund, Greater LA and the generous support of donors and philanthropic partners.

Before applying, please read the proposal guidelines here
View the online application here
Send all application questions to YouthDevelopment@calfund.org

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
- Remote Learning and Mental Wellness Toolkits
- School Reopening Planning Framework

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communications@lacoe.edu