

COVID-19 Operations Written Report

Local Educational Agency (LEA) Name	Contact Name and Title	Email and Phone	Date of Adoption
Alliance Virgil Roberts Leadership Academy	Joy May-Harris, Principal	(323) 920-4388 jmayharris@laalliance.org	June 10, 2020

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.

In order to ensure the safety and well-being of our scholars and families, the Alliance College Ready Public Schools (ACRPS) decided to close schools from March 16, 2020 until the end of the 2019-20 school year, in alignment with the guidance of public health officials. Despite the closure of our campuses, ACRPS has remained committed to our mission to educate our scholars and support our families. We, therefore, transitioned our instructional program to distance learning on April 1, 2020.

In order to plan a smooth transition to distance learning, the ACRPS closed school between March 16, 2020 and April 1, 2020. During this time, the ACRPS worked with our families to complete a technology needs assessment and to provide all scholars with laptops and access to the internet. To that end, we handed out over 900 wifi hotspots to ensure equitable access to distance learning. Additionally, during this time, a group of stakeholders from across the ACRPS, including principals and teachers, worked together to create the best model to meet the needs of our scholars. As part of this planning, the group developed the operations, attendance, and special education guidance needed to ensure we were prepared for distance learning. The ACRPS also worked to train teachers in distance learning and to support their transition to Google Classroom.

Given the age of the students that we serve, this working group of stakeholders found that many of our scholars were assisting with caring for younger family members and providing support within their families, so the ACRPS decided to allow for flexibility in completing assignments to ensure equity. As a result, though there are many different models for distance learning around the country, the approach ACRPS has taken to provide Distance Learning has been to provide scholars with ongoing lessons and assignments that they can engage in on their own time through an asynchronous model.

Additionally, our model prioritizes providing scholars with consistent feedback, connection, and support, and we are just as concerned with scholars' well-being during this time as we are with their academic progress. To this end, we curated and directed families to a list of community resources to support access to mental health services as well as food, clothing, and housing assistance. In order to ensure access to nutrition, we have maintained seven nutrition hubs across the ACRPS network through which our families can readily access meals. In order to support mental health, ACRPS counselors provided outreach to families and conducted regular check-ins with scholars during this crisis. Additionally, our schools engaged in daily attendance calls for scholars who were not completing the ACRPS daily attendance survey to try to maximize engagement with our distance learning program.

Though the spread of the coronavirus around the world has created unprecedented challenges and created added stress and anxiety for our families and scholars, the ACRPS will continue to do all it can to educate our scholars, to act as a support for our communities, and to help our families access the resources that they need.

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

The Alliance College Ready Public Schools was founded with the belief that every single scholar who walks through our doors has unlimited promise and with the mission to ensure that underserved communities have the right to equitable educational opportunities. To this end, our schools have remained committed to meeting the needs of all of our scholars, including low-income scholars, Foster Youth, and English Learners. We are taking the same impassioned “All Means All” approach to ensuring that each and every one of our scholars remains fully supported during this time of change and ambiguity. The supports that we’ve offered include the following:

- 1) Maintaining a repository of community resources for families, including resources for mental health services as well as food, clothing, and housing assistance;
- 2) Serving meal packages at our seven nutrition hubs to ensure families have access to a nutritious breakfast, lunch, and supper;
- 3) Providing over 1,000 wifi hotspots as well as laptops, Chromebooks, or tablets to all scholars;
- 4) Providing small group instruction and supports for our English Learners, Students with Disabilities, and struggling scholars;
- 5) Hosting the “To and Through, Together” series of community workshops, led by subject-matter experts and community partners across Los Angeles, around topics, such as “Supporting your Child’s Emotional Needs During Distance Learning”; and
- 6) Conducting daily outreach by phone, text, email, and social networks to ensure historically underserved subgroups are reached and have access to instructional materials and social-emotional supports.

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

One of ACRPS’ core values is high expectations for all scholars. Our scholars receive rigorous instruction in high school so they can succeed in college and beyond, and our commitment to deliver a college preparatory education to our scholars remains firm in the face of the COVID-19 crisis. Just two weeks after schools closed, ACRPS leaders designed a comprehensive Distance Learning model, trained educators to use this model, and launched Distance Learning across our 25 schools. Moreover, to ensure access to distance learning for our families, we provided over 900 Wi-Fi hotspots as well as laptops, chromebooks, or tablets to all of our scholars. Throughout the duration of distance learning, our schools have continued to provide access to key subjects, such as Mathematics, English Language Arts, and Science as well as to some additional courses. In order to ensure our students are engaged with instruction, our schools have divided scholars into advisories that allow teachers to be directly connected to a small cohort of scholars. Moreover, our schools reach out each day to any student who hasn’t completed our daily Attendance survey, resulting in a network-wide average daily attendance rate of 93.5% between April 1, 2020 and May 21, 2020, as measured by the ACRPS daily attendance survey.

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

In order to ensure that scholars retain access to critical food services, the Alliance College Ready Public Schools have continued to distribute meals throughout the closure period. The ACRPS is currently operating seven nutrition hubs that serve meal packages inclusive of breakfast, lunch, and dinner. In order to ensure the greatest level of accessibility, the ACRPS also retains a repository of external nutrition centers in proximity to each school with addresses and hours of operation listed. At the time of this report (March 16, 2020 to May 21, 2020), the ACRPS had distributed over 212,000 meal packages that included over 575,000 individual meals.

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

To provide support to our families and staff who might be in need of child care options, the ACRPS have posted resources directing our scholars and families to where they can apply for emergency child care and how they can access the child care opportunities. These resources can be accessed directly from the ACRPS website by all members of our community. Our staff can also access these resources from the ACRPS intranet. Among these resources, we've linked the [covid19.ca.gov/childcare](https://www.covid19.ca.gov/childcare) webpage, which enables parents to enter their location and the type of care they need to find safe, reliable and accessible child care options.

California Department of Education
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