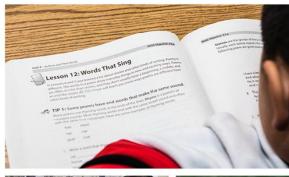


# 2020-2021













## **BOARD OF EDUCATION WORK-SESSION**

September 28, 2020





# START OF SCHOOLS 2020-2021

## Safe Return to Learning - at-a-glance

- Recruited, hired, and onboarded **622** teachers and staff members
- Served 1.8 million breakfast, lunch, and dinner meals to Tulsa children ages 18 and under
- Completed facilities improvements and renovations at 6 school buildings and sites
- Cleaned and sanitized 7.8 million square feet of school and building space every day and mowed the equivalent of 85+ football fields a day
- Managed deliveries of personal protective equipment, food, and supplies to nearly 100 buildings and sites
- Collaborated with more than 26 local and national partners including health and safety experts - to make informed decisions by monitoring current and projected conditions around and assessing immediate- and long-term effects of COVID-19 global pandemic

# Safe Return to Learning - at-a-glance

- Developed a safe return to learning plan based on feedback and insights from 19,000 Tulsans through surveys, live-polling, and virtual meetings
- Created a 2020-2021 school year calendar with 3 flexible scheduling options designed to adapt to community rates of COVID-19 infection
- Launched Tulsa Virtual Academy full-year distance learning option with
  4,500 students registered
- Delivered or installed more than 80,000 pieces of personal protective equipment across 78 school and district sites
- Facilitated 1,130 hours of targeted professional learning opportunities to teachers, school leaders, and school-based staff
- Provided 35,000 Chromebooks and 11,000 hotspots to schools for distribution to students

# Two critical measures of progress are student attendance and participation.

#### **Attendance at elementary**

- Students need to complete at least **one assignment per half day** of school
  - Example of perfect attendance: 10 assignments in a week with no holidays
  - Example of partial attendance: 5 assignments by Sunday night in a week with no holidays is 2.5 days of attendance

#### Attendance at secondary

- Students need to complete at least one assignment per day per course
  - Example of perfect attendance: 5 assignments per course in a week with no holidays
  - Example of partial attendance: 4 assignments in one course by Sunday night is 4 days of attending the course

#### Student participation

- Is the student logging into his or her learning platforms?
- Is the student completing instructional activities?



# Monitoring and measuring our progress

We learned about the needs and experiences of families in near real-time through our Back to School survey.

- Based on the survey, the most common needs during the first two weeks of school where Chromebooks and hotspots, Clever log-in badges, and course schedules.
- We used the qualitative feedback from families to adjust and respond to both trends in parent experiences and unique family situations.

#### Themes we are hearing from parents and families:

- Consistent appreciation for the hard work of our teachers, school leaders, and staff;
- Valuable and specific feedback around issues with functionality of distance learning tools;
- Parents are experiencing inconsistency in navigating both the various applications that schools are using and in where assignments and information are located in Canvas; and
- Variance in application of attendance guidelines is creating confusion about how attendance works in distance learning.

We are using this feedback and working to address the inconsistencies in experiences with our distance learning tools and practices.

## Monitoring and measuring our progress

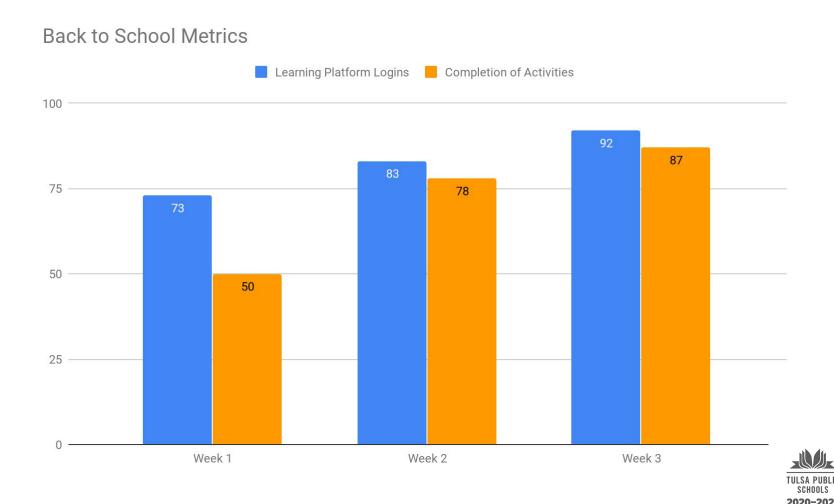
Teachers, school leaders, and network support teams have been working urgently to locate students who have not yet engaged this year, resulting in a 15 percentage point decrease in the percentage of "disconnected" students from **20**% in week one to **5**% at the end of week three.

Some of the tactics school teams are using include:

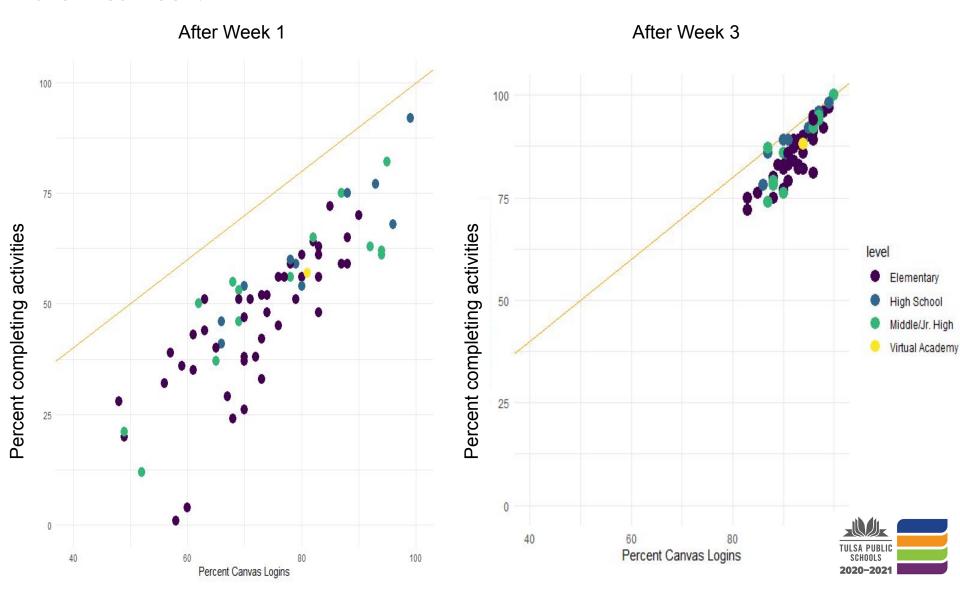
- Visiting local shelters, community centers, and community-serving agencies;
- Using emergency contacts to try to find updated information for the family;
- Conducting "porch visits," home visits, and talking with neighbors to locate families who are not at their last known address;
- Visiting local apartment complexes and working with leasing managers to find families; and
- "Satellite office hours" in the McLain neighborhood to engage families at Comanche Park, Apache Manor, Mohawk Manor, and Seminole Hills.
- → Some schools "found" families who were having issues with basic technology usage and were able to "reconnect" students by assisting families with operating Chromebooks and using Canvas.
- → Many schools are holding regular technology assistance days for families to get in-person help with distance learning tools (while following safety guidance around distancing and face-coverings).

# Monitoring and measuring our progress

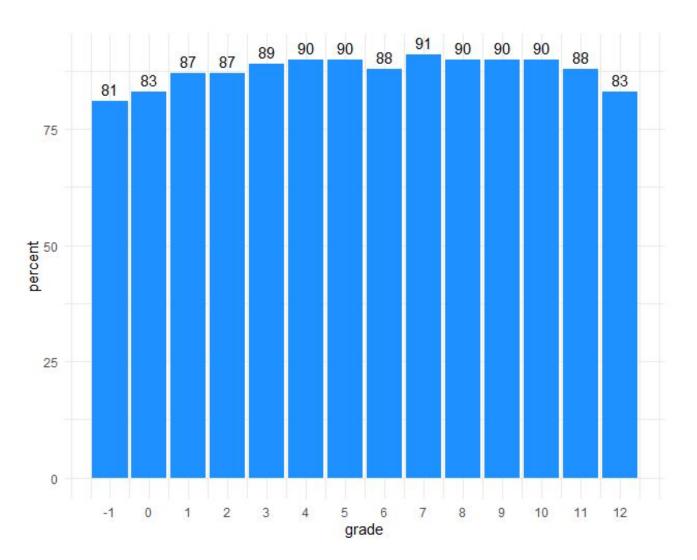
As our students, families, and school teams grow more comfortable with teaching and learning in a distance model, our metrics are steadily improving.



Intensive efforts by school teams are showing early results: all schools significantly increased the number of students completing activities since the first week.

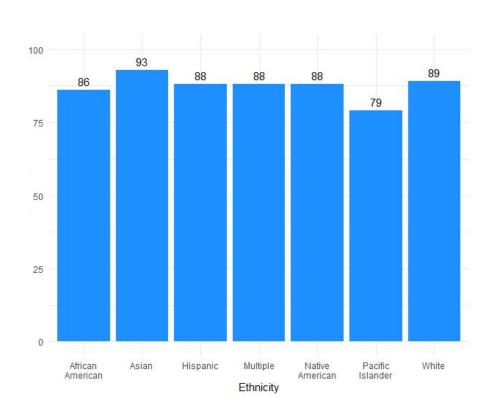


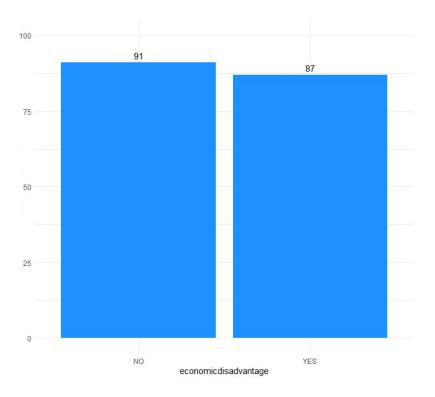
# Completion of instructional activities is relatively consistent across grade levels.





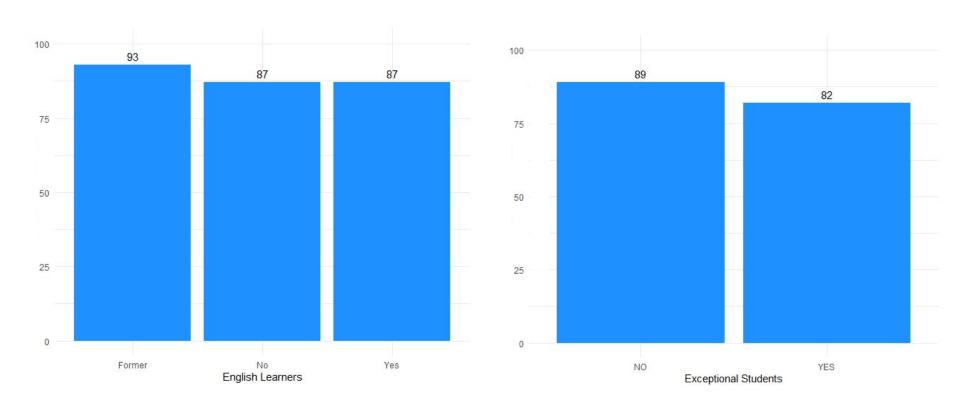
# Most students are completing instructional activities, but small gaps between student subgroups exist.







# Our English Learners are completing instructional activities at the same rates as non-English Learners, but Exceptional Students have been slightly less likely to complete activities.





Our scorecard represents the long-term measures we are focused on improving, but we will need to be flexible this year.



College and Career Ready Graduates

Academic Excellence

Safe, Supportive, and Joyful School Climate/Culture

Organizational Excellence













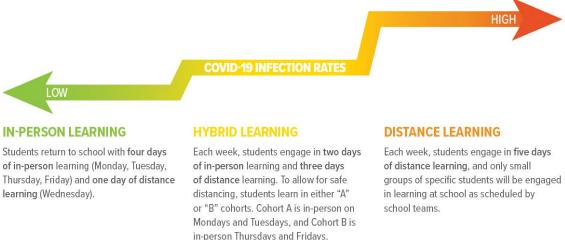
# Answering key questions during the year will help us adapt and improve as we deal with uncertain times.

- Are our students, families, and staff members physically safe?
- Are we supporting our students' social-emotional learning and wellness?
- Are our educators effectively supported and prepared as the year progresses?
- Are our students engaging with rigorous grade-level appropriate learning and succeeding in their classes?
- Are we strengthening family relationships and supporting families with distance learning?



## Planning for flexibility, safety, and sustainability

We are continuing to monitor conditions and collaborate closely with local health professionals.



- Late September: Listening sessions with key stakeholders
- Early October: Superintendent Gist makes a recommendation for quarter two instructional mode of return
- Mid October: Board of Education considers and takes action on the recommendation
- Week of November 2: No school: Parent teacher conferences/intersession week
- Week of November 9: Quarter two begins





# DISCUSSION



#### BACK TO SCHOOL 2020-2021

TulsaSchools.org/back2school

Find information, updates, and frequently asked questions about planning the school year



#### SCHOOL CALENDARS

TulsaSchools.org/calendar

Find downloadable PDFs of our 2020–2021 school year calendar



#### TULSA VIRTUAL ACADEMY

TulsaSchools.org/virtual

Information for our virtual learning option for grades pre-k through 12.



#### **TECHNOLOGY NEEDS**

studentVL@tulsaschools.org or 918-833-TECH

Repair appointments available Monday – Thursday from 2:00 P.M. – 6:00 P.M. at the Enrollment Center.

Supports are available for district devices only. We cannot support personal computers.



#### **WELLNESS CARE LINE**

918-746-6130

Request support services at TulsaSchools.org/Wellness

Open Monday – Friday from 8:30 A.M. - 5 P.M.

All calls are confidential. Spanish interpretation available

#### **FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA**











# **APPENDIX**

# Planning for health and safety

#### Safe Classrooms and Buildings

- Custodians clean and disinfect our classrooms and buildings daily, and we have improved effectiveness and efficiency with the use of 146 electrostatic sprayers.
- Every school has improved air filtration and/or ventilation strategies and water-bottle fill stations to decrease high-contact points in our buildings.

#### **Healthy Teams, Students, and Families**

- 100% of our schools have been provided with personal protective equipment, including 40,000 pieces of equipment from the State of Oklahoma and specialty face coverings for our Deaf Education programs.
- We have installed 46,475 pieces of safety signage at our 78 district sites and partner schools, reminding our team and students about hygiene, safe social/physical distancing, and safe and healthy behaviors





## Planning for health and safety



COVID-19 Case Count Week of: 9/7/20 - 9/11/20\*

Tulsa Public Schools has COVID-19 safety protocols in place at all of our school buildings and district sites. Our practices include a self-administered health questionnaire, temperature screening at the door, and requiring face coverings in all common areas and/or in the presence of other people. We are asking everyone in the Tulsa Public Schools community to practice safe distancing and to stay home if they are experiencing symptoms. This weekly report will provide information about rates of COVID-19 infection and exposure in our district.

Reports of Potential Exposure refers to the number of staff members or students who have self-reported that they have been in "close contact" with an individual who has tested positive for COVID-19.

Reports of Confirmed Cases refers to the number of staff members or students who have self-reported positive results for a COVID-19 test.

"Close Contacts" Traced By Staff refers to the number of staff or students who have been identified as having had close contact with another staff member or student who has self-reported positive results for a COVID-19 test.

"Close Contact" as defined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention occurs when an individual is within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes starting from 2 days before the infected person's diagnosis.

| Reports of Potential | Reports of Confirmed | "Close Contacts" Traced by |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|
| Exposure             | Cases                | District Staff             |
| 33                   | 4                    |                            |

Health and Safety Update: Clean and Safe Schools

- . 100% of schools have been provided with personal protective equipment
- · Our Deaf Education programs have been provided with specialty face coverings
- · All sites are being cleaned and disinfected daily

'Report covers cases from the previous Friday through the close of business on Thursday, Friday, Sept. 11 will be reported next week

#### **COVID-19 Response**

- Collaborated with Tulsa Health Department in developing our COVID-19 Safety Response
   Guidance and Protocols.
- Developed and implemented safety protocols where face coverings are required for ages 4 and up, with accommodations as needed.
- Implemented a standard screening protocol for employees, partners, and vendors with a self-administered questionnaire, temperature check for all adults, and district sign-in sheet.
- Launched a weekly COVID-19 case count report to update our team and families of reports of potential exposure, reports of confirmed cases, and close contacts traced by staff.



## Preparing school teams for distance learning

#### **Educator Professional Learning**

- We launched the **Team Tulsa Learning Hub** to provide a central location for all staff to access professional learning opportunities and resources.
- Teacher professional learning went virtual as we provided all teachers with 185 hours of (distance) professional learning across four days in May.
- We hosted the Tulsa Way Academy for New Teachers in August with content covering classroom management, curricular resources, supporting diverse learners, and building foundational Canvas skills.
- We hosted additional Back-to-School professional learning for all teachers with
  116 unique, differentiated sessions and courses over five days in August.
- Our **Distance Learning Teacher Hotline** provided **support for 1,073 teachers** between Aug. 5 and Sept. 18

#### **Ongoing Support for Teachers**

- Instructional Mentors are being "deployed" to prioritized school sites to work with novice teachers and those needing additional support with distance learning.
- Our Distance Learning Hotline will re-launch in early October, staffed by current classroom teachers who are seeing early success with distance learning.



# Preparing school teams for distance learning

#### **Providing Instructional Technology**

- We distributed 35,000 Chromebooks to schools between March and August.
- We delivered 11,000 hotspots to schools for families needing access to reliable internet service.
- We launched our Student Tech Support Hotline at 918-333-TECH or studentVL@tulsaschools.org.

#### **Sustaining Grade Level Learning**

- We provided virtual Summer Academy learning for 325
  students in third grade and high school, as well as more than 30 virtual summer camps for all interested students.
- We launched rigorous, high-quality digital instructional resources customized by content, grade level, and need for all students.
- We distributed instructional bundles of books, workbooks, and school supplies to all students during Back to School Week.
- We launched Tulsa Virtual Academy for 4,396 students who needed an always-virtual option.









# Serving and supporting our team and community

- We served **1.8 million meals** from March 2020 August 2020 using traditional meal sites and our first ever "Mobile Meals" service model using our school buses to deliver meals throughout the city.
- We leveraged our community partnerships to expand access to supports for basic needs and childcare:
  - COVID-19 Kid Care Resource Portal sponsored by Tulsa Public Schools, The Opportunity Project, and the Tulsa Area United Way;
  - Tulsa Public Schools, Meals on Wheels, City of Tulsa partnership to provide temporary meal service from Aug. 24 - Aug. 28; and
  - Tulsa Public Schools, ImpactTulsa, City of Tulsa business leader gatherings to support employees in navigating childcare needs.
- We launched a Parent and Family Wellness Care Line to provide supports and referrals for basic needs, mental health services, and social services.
- We supported our community partners with parent communications to increase awareness of parent and family resources:
  - Tulsa Housing Authority Emergency Rental Assistance Program
  - YMCA of Greater Tulsa, Tulsa Parks, City of Tulsa childcare options
  - Pandemic-EBT Cards and Food Benefits



# Serving and supporting our team and community

- We have continued to **prioritize the health and safety of our team**:
  - Beginning in March, we implemented CDC guidelines for COVID-19 safety and front-line essential staff were provided with personal protective equipment.
  - The Talent Management team developed and managed implementation of COVID-19 leave and telework policies to help staff needing flexibility related to the global pandemic.
  - Our Before and After Care team developed and launched childcare services for Tulsa Public Schools employees.
  - In October, we will re-launch our Employee Wellness Care Line as part of our year-long employee wellness initiative.
- We continue to **improve the ways we communicate and engage** with parents and families:
  - Our three week Parent Hotline effort included 206 staff members contacting 17,253 families to check-in and determine needs for distance learning.
  - Through Zoom-based meetings and trainings, school and district teams are engaging with up to 1,000 parents and community members through video or phone.
  - Our site-based parent involvement facilitators are meeting regularly and leveraging our parent engagement toolkit to sustain and strengthen school/family partnerships









### Improving schools, classrooms, and facilities

Thanks to the support of Tulsans, the 2015 bond continues to help improve the condition and safety of our buildings and spaces:

- Renovations at Salk and Patrick Henry elementary schools, Rogers Middle and High School, and Edison Preparatory High School
- Remodels of East Central High School's science labs and classrooms
- Created new dining commons area at Central Middle and High School
- Remodels of early childhood classrooms at Wayman Tisdale Fine Arts Academy
- Construction of the new stadium and Rogers Middle and High School
- Rebuilt of the Carver Middle School Stadium, including new turf
- Installed tracks at Memorial, Rogers, Booker T. Washington, and Hale high schools
- Replacement of the HVAC system at East Central Junior High School
- Completed construction of new Patrick Henry Elementary School safe-room; the 17th safe-room in the district that can house the entire student body
- Installed a state of the art visual notification system and a sound enhancement system for hearing impaired students at Patrick Henry Elementary School.
- Installed enhanced secure entries at Council Oak, Salk, and Patrick Henry elementary schools and East Central High School.