



LOMPOC UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT Superintendent's Community Transmittal

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Dear LUSD Community:

Below are some items of interest to our LUSD community.

Free Meals for All Kids All Year!

We are very happy to share that the USDA announced that free meals have been extended through the school year. We plan to roll this free program right through the summer of 2021.

CARE Act Funding

CARE funds were made available to teachers. Sample lists of supplies for distance learning were provided to teachers through their school sites with the following information about the funds. **Primary purpose of the funds:** Instructional supplies to support students during distance learning. LUSD believes that teachers know best what their students could use to support them during this time. Learning supports could include instructional supplies, school-appropriate incentives, social-emotional supports, etc. **Secondary purpose of the funds:** Additional instructional supplies needed for in-person learning when schools reopen. If there are funds left after purchasing supplies for distance learning, the teachers can use funds to purchase additional supplies for in-person learning. In-person learning under health and safety guidelines will require additional classroom supplies to limit sharing and different materials that were not used before.

Preparation for Reopening

This week's Administrative Council meeting provided dedicated time for administrators to plan their site-specific videos where they will show families what to expect when they return. The administrators met with their peers, elementary with elementary, secondary with secondary, so that the videos will be accurate for each site's unique plans, but similar in content to ensure all families get similar information.

Labor Relations

We met with both labor groups this week to continue our regular dialogue regarding COVID-19, funding, and reopening plans. We continue to share with our labor partners how fortunate we are to have such respectful, professional relationships. After reading about what is happening with labor unions around the nation, we are grateful for the strong foundation we have established with both CSEA and LFT.

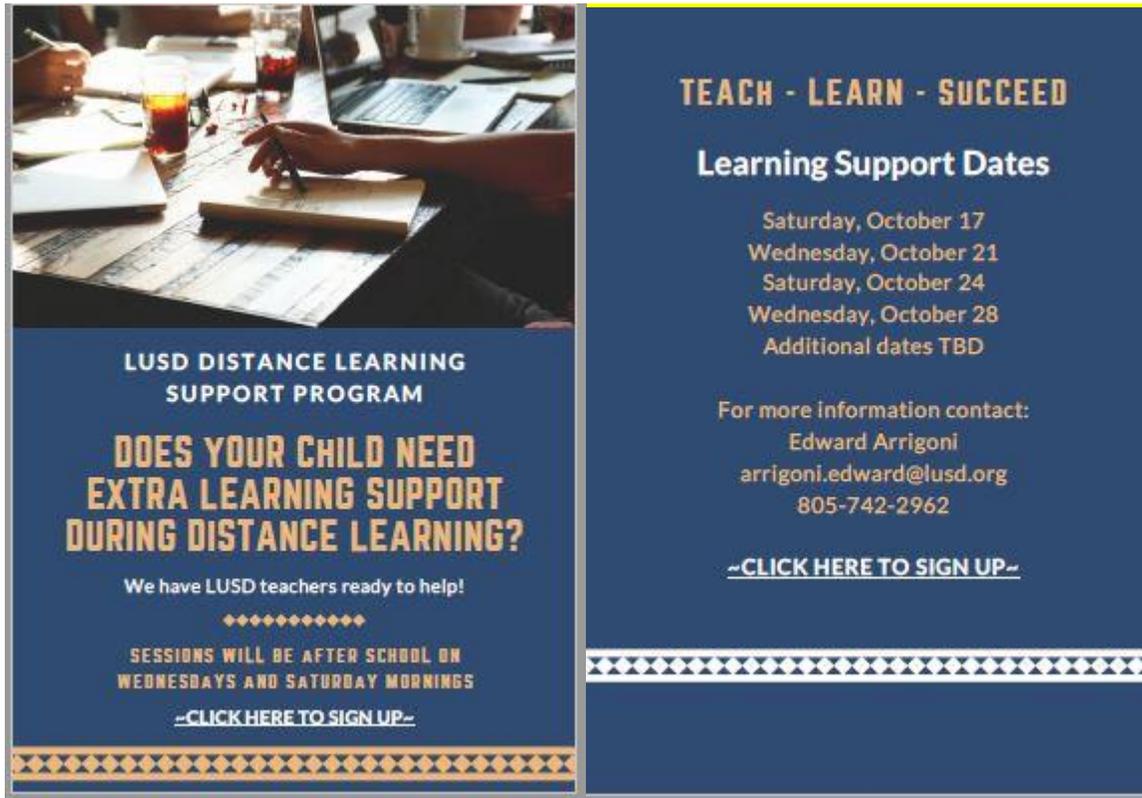
Wi-Fi for Families

We are progressing in our talks to provide free Wi-Fi to all our students across the city. Preliminary talks have identified LHS as the site where the broadband would be placed and then antennas at the school sites around the city. We can then work to expand the free Wi-Fi offerings outside of the city limits to Los Berros, Buena Vista, and Cabrillo High. We want to ensure that we have a quality broadband service and then work to expand it. Our focus is on our lowest

income families to ensure they have a reliable internet connection. We should have a more formal plan next week.

Extra Support for Students

Flyers have been posted on social media and the LUSD website about the additional support for families on Wednesdays and Saturdays. So far, we have had many students sign up: TK-K=7, 1-2nd grade=12, 3-4th grade=20, 5-6th grade=23, Middle school=31, High School=39 for a total of 132 students getting additional assistance with their academics.



October Professional Development

All staff received a survey to get feedback on the topics they are interested in for our District-wide professional development on October 30. We received hundreds of responses from staff through Nearpod. The results have been tallied and the professional development is being designed around their feedback.

In addition, our administrators are doing a book study on two different books to identify best-practices with distance learning. Every two weeks all the administrators come together to discuss their “aha” moments from the latest reading excerpt and then share how to take what was read and use it to support teachers, students, and staff.

Community Collaboration—Student Supports

LUSD hosted a Community Collaboration on Tuesday, October 13 which invited local agencies that work with youth, including local pediatricians, health centers, law enforcement, social emotional and family services. The purpose of this and future meetings is to provide information

to the community about the services for students within the District, collaborate on the community resources available to students and families, and discuss the needs of students and families.

Small-Group In-person Cohorts

The school sites continue to submit their cohort plans for SDC (Special Day Class) classes to attend school in a safe and healthy manner. Once agreement is reached with LFT, a date will be set for cohorts to begin at schools with an approved plan.

Youth Violence Prevention Task Force

On Wednesday, October 14, the Youth Violence Prevention Task Force convened its first meeting. The Task Force is part of the implementation of the OJJDP grant and its purpose is “Violence in the Lompoc Community” which has a significant impact on our youth every day. Not only have youth lost their lives or been physically injured, but many others experience the effects of emotional and social trauma. Our goal is to collaborate with community members and community agencies to 1) understand the depth and breadth of the effects of violence in the community; 2) collaborate on community solutions to mitigate the effects of violence in the community; and 3) decrease youth violence. The first three meetings will be to build the community members of the task force and orient the members to the purpose.

After School Teachers

Our two after hours’ teachers, Daniel and Iliana, continue to do excellent work. Students are attending more consistently and these two really do well under pressure. Today, a student came into Daniel’s class and was very excited because she finally understood what slope and sequence was and thanked him for teaching her. Iliana has been a great asset to our Spanish-speaking students and families and continues to make time to explain how Distance Learning works to parents as well as teach kids core content. They are still scheduling kids (K-10 right now) and have well over 100 students.

Access to Remote Learning

All 250 hotspots have been delivered to the District and distributed to families. They have been a real assistance for many families, but a few are still having difficulty, as they have poor cellular signal and the hotspots are just as limited as their previous internet option.

We are exploring the option of purchasing Ipads for our K-2 students in place of Chromebooks. Ipads have some significant advantages over Chromebooks, including a more robust processor, more memory, and many more education-based applications that can be used.

Next Generation Science Standards NGSS Curriculum Pilot

Over the next 10-12 weeks, the elementary sites will pilot two NGSS science programs, TWIG Science and Discovery Education Science. These are both excellent curricula, especially for our current situation, as they both include traditional text/workbook, as well as online curriculum, and hands on, lab-based materials. We will keep you up-to-date with results and feedback from these pilots.

Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan Parent Advisory Committee (LCAP PAC)

A Zoom webinar was held on October 5 as an informational meeting to let parents know what would be expected of them if they joined and participated on the LCAP PAC. After that meeting, we had 41 parents volunteer to join. We ultimately selected 17 parents from 14 sites. We have

parents who represent the subgroups of ELL, Special Education, Section 504, Dual Language Immersion, and GATE. We had so many excellent candidates, that in order to keep selection completely impartial we used randomizer to pick representatives from each school site.

Thank you for your support.

Trevor McDonald
Superintendent of Schools