

To view recordings of past board meetings, click [HERE](http://bit.ly/srcs_youtube) ([http://bit.ly/srcs\\_youtube](http://bit.ly/srcs_youtube)).

**MISSION:** SRCS ensures equitable access to a transformative educational experience grounded in the assets of our students, staff, and community. We nurture the whole student in an engaging, challenging, and safe environment. We recognize and value each student's individuality and our community's cultural wealth.

**VISION:** SRCS will send students into the world empowered to find purpose, think critically, embrace diversity, work together, and adapt to our changing planet, and live healthy and fulfilling lives.

### **Attendees**

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#### **Voting Members**

Alegria De La Cruz, Clerk  
Laurie Fong, President  
Jenni Klose, Director  
Stephanie Manieri, Director  
Jill McCormick, Director  
Omar Medina, Director  
Ed Sheffield, Vice President

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#### **A. CALL TO ORDER (5:00 p.m.)**

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm.

##### **1. Public Comment on Closed Session Agenda**

There were no public comments on the closed session agenda.

#### **B. RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION**

1. Public Employee Performance Evaluation (Title of employee being reviewed: Superintendent, Deputy Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Principals, Vice Principals, Assistant Principals, Directors, Coordinators) [Gov. Code § 54957]
2. Conference With Labor Negotiator (Name of designated rep attending: Steve Mizera, Rick Edson; name of organization representing employee(s): SRTA, CSEA)[Gov. Code § 54957.6]
3. Conference With Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation (Case name: Santa Rosa City Schools V. TW OAH Case Number 2020060884 ) [Gov. Code § 54956.9]

#### **C. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION (6:00 p.m.)**

The meeting reconvened at 6:02 pm. Director Omar Lopez was present.

##### **1. Pledge of Allegiance**

President Fong led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Report of Actions Taken in Closed Session

There was no report of action during closed session.

3. Items Considered In Closed Session for Action In Open Session

There was no action taken.

4. Statements of Abstention

There were no statements of abstention.

5. Adjustments to Agenda

There were no adjustments to the agenda.

6. Public Comment On Non Agenda Items

The following individuals addressed the Board:

- Marc Faustino - inquired as to why we cannot currently have athletics.
- Veronica Jordan - inquired as to why Back to School Night is being recorded and not conducted live.
- Mandy Kelly - inquired about classified staff and the MOU that specifies that staff should be on site.
- Amy Bowen - inquired about revisiting the Return to School Plan class schedules.
- Luis & Amy Godoy - inquired about resuming athletic practices.
- Sabrina Abraham - inquired about football season.
- Christina Carra - inquired about resuming cross-country running.
- Lynnette Casey - inquired about classified staff and the MOU that specifies that staff should be on site.
- Pamela Karbowski - expressed gratitude to the Board and staff.

#### D. REPORTS

1. A School Employee Association (CSEA) Report

CSEA President Tammy Affonso gave a report.

2. Santa Rosa Teachers Association (SRTA) Report

No report was given.

3. Superintendent Report

Superintendent Dr. Diann Kitamura gave a report.

- The Athletic Directors met with our COVID-19 Coordinator to conduct a training on protocols in efforts to bring athletes back on campus for condition.
  - Our facilities will not be open to the public, just students.
- We are down around 300 students for our current projected enrollment rate.
- Our Boundary Committee is currently reviewing adjustments to boundaries in our District.

4. Board President Report  
No report was given.

5. Board Member Reports  
Director Stephanie Manieri gave a report.

- Director Manieri encouraged everyone to keep an eye out for the next book distribution date through LandPaths.
- There are 7 days left to complete the census. It can be completed at [2020census.gov](https://2020census.gov).

Director Omar Medina gave a report.

- Recognized retiring staff member Michael Morales for thirty years of service with the District.
- Encouraged classified staff to follow the processes in place and share their voice through the union which represents them.
- Director Medina recommended to have live broadcasts of sports games for the community to watch in their homes.

Director Jenni Klose gave a report.

- Generation Housing will be holding a Youth in Housing Town Hall on October 1, 2020.
  - This will give young people the chance to express how the housing crisis in Sonoma County is affecting them.

Director Jill McCormick gave a report.

- Director McCormick expressed her gratitude for the return of athletic conditioning that is soon to come.
- Encouraged all to register to vote.

Director Ed Sheffield gave a report.

- Expressed the overall necessity for an "attitude of gratitude" and thanked parents, students and staff for all they have been contributing during these challenging times.

Director Alegria De La Cruz gave a report.

- Thanked staff for all they are doing during this time and for their creativity with student engagement.

6. CSBA Report  
No report was given.

#### E. DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS

1. (Action) Approval of Resolution for September Suicide Prevention Month

Director Stephanie Manieri presented a request for Approval of Resolution for September Suicide Prevention Month.

The following individual addressed the Board during public comment: Maura Ryan.

President Fong stepped away from the meeting at 7:05 pm due to a poor internet connection. She rejoined the meeting at 7:12 pm.

Motion Passed: Approval of Resolution for September Suicide Prevention Month.

Director Omar Lopez preferential vote: Aye.

Motion made by: Jenni Klose

Motion seconded by: Jill McCormick

Voting

Alegria De La Cruz - Yes

Laurie Fong - Not Present

Jenni Klose - Yes

Stephanie Manieri - Yes

Jill McCormick - Yes

Omar Medina - Yes

Ed Sheffield - Yes

2. (Action) Request to Continue the Ad Hoc Committee on the School Resource Officer Program for One Month and Bring Committee Recommendations to the October 14, 2020 Board Meeting

Assistant Superintendent of Student and Family Services Stephen Mizera presented a Request to Continue the Ad Hoc Committee on the School Resource Officer Program for One Month and Bring Committee Recommendations to the October 14, 2020 Board Meeting.

Motion Passed: Request to Continue the Ad Hoc Committee on the School Resource Officer Program for One Month and Bring Committee Recommendations to the October 14, 2020 Board Meeting.

Director Omar Lopez preferential vote: Aye.

Motion made by: Jill McCormick

Motion seconded by: Omar Medina

Voting

Alegria De La Cruz - Yes

Laurie Fong - Yes

Jenni Klose - Yes

Stephanie Manieri - Yes

Jill McCormick - Yes

Omar Medina - Yes  
Ed Sheffield - Yes

3. (Action) Approval of Santa Rosa City Schools Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan

Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning Anna-Maria Guzman presented a request for Approval of Santa Rosa City Schools Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan.

Motion Passed: Approval of Santa Rosa City Schools Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan.

Director Omar Lopez preferential vote: Aye.

Motion made by: Jenni Klose

Motion seconded by: Jill McCormick

Voting

Alegria De La Cruz - Yes

Laurie Fong - Yes

Jenni Klose - Yes

Stephanie Manieri - Yes

Jill McCormick - Yes

Omar Medina - Yes

Ed Sheffield - Yes

4. (Action) Approval of Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan: CCLA

Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning Anna-Maria Guzman presented a request for Approval of Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan: CCLA.

Motion Passed: Approval of Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan: CCLA.

Director Omar Lopez preferential vote: Aye.

Motion made by: Jill McCormick

Motion seconded by: Omar Medina

Voting

Alegria De La Cruz - Yes

Laurie Fong - Yes

Jenni Klose - Yes

Stephanie Manieri - Yes

Jill McCormick - Yes

Omar Medina - Yes

Ed Sheffield - Yes

5. (Action) Approval of Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan: SRACS

Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning Anna-Maria Guzman presented a request for Approval of Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan: SRACS.

Motion Passed: Approval of Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan: SRACS.

Director Omar Lopez preferential vote: Aye.

Motion made by: Jill McCormick

Motion seconded by: Ed Sheffield

Voting

Alegria De La Cruz - Yes

Laurie Fong - Yes

Jenni Klose - Yes

Stephanie Manieri - Yes

Jill McCormick - Yes

Omar Medina - Yes

Ed Sheffield - Yes

6. (Action) Approval of Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan: SRCSA

Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning Anna-Maria Guzman presented a request for Approval of Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan: SRCSA.

Motion Passed: Approval of Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan: SRCSA.

Director Omar Lopez preferential vote: Aye.

Motion made by: Jill McCormick

Motion seconded by: Alegria De La Cruz

Voting

Alegria De La Cruz - Yes

Laurie Fong - Yes

Jenni Klose - Yes

Stephanie Manieri - Yes

Jill McCormick - Yes

Omar Medina - Yes

Ed Sheffield - Yes

7. (Action) Approval of Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan: SRFACS

Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning Anna-Maria Guzman presented a request for Approval of Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan: SRFACS.

Motion Passed: Approval of Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan: SRFACS.

Director Omar Lopez preferential vote: Aye.

Motion made by: Jill McCormick

Motion seconded by: Ed Sheffield

Voting

Alegria De La Cruz - Yes

Laurie Fong - Yes

Jenni Klose - Yes

Stephanie Manieri - Yes

Jill McCormick - Yes

Omar Medina - Yes

Ed Sheffield - Yes

8. Public Hearing Regarding Sufficiency of Textbooks or Instructional Materials for 2020-2021, Grades K-6

No public comment was given during the Public Hearing Regarding Sufficiency of Textbooks or Instructional Materials for 2020-2021, Grades K-6.

9. (Action) Sufficiency of Textbooks or Instructional Materials for 2020-2021, Grades K-6

Director of Math & Science Rani Goyal presented a request for approval of Sufficiency of Textbooks or Instructional Materials for 2020-2021, Grades K-6.

Motion Passed: Sufficiency of Textbooks or Instructional Materials for 2020-2021, Grades K-6.

Director Omar Lopez preferential vote: Aye.

Motion made by: Jill McCormick

Motion seconded by: Ed Sheffield

Voting

Alegria De La Cruz - Yes

Laurie Fong - Yes

Jenni Klose - Yes

Stephanie Manieri - Yes

Jill McCormick - Yes

Omar Medina - Yes

Ed Sheffield - Yes

10. Public Hearing Regarding Sufficiency of Textbooks or Instructional Materials for 2020-2021, Grades 7-12

No public comment was given during the Public Hearing Regarding Sufficiency of Textbooks or Instructional Materials for 2020-2021, Grades 7-12.

11. (Action) Sufficiency of Textbooks or Instructional Materials for 2020-2021, Grades 7-12

Director of Math & Science Rani Goyal presented a request for approval of Sufficiency of Textbooks or Instructional Materials for 2020-2021, Grades 7-12.

Motion Passed: Sufficiency of Textbooks or Instructional Materials for 2020-2021, Grades 7-12.

Director Omar Lopez preferential vote: Aye.

Motion made by: Jill McCormick

Motion seconded by: Ed Sheffield

Voting

Alegria De La Cruz - Yes

Laurie Fong - Yes

Jenni Klose - Yes

Stephanie Manieri - Yes

Jill McCormick - Yes

Omar Medina - Yes

Ed Sheffield - Yes

F. CONSENT ITEMS

Motion Passed: Approval of Consent Items F.2 - F.8.

Director Omar Lopez preferential vote: Aye.

Motion made by: Jill McCormick

Motion seconded by: Ed Sheffield

Voting

Alegria De La Cruz - Yes

Laurie Fong - Yes

Jenni Klose - Yes

Stephanie Manieri - Yes

Jill McCormick - Yes

Omar Medina - Yes

Ed Sheffield - Yes

1. Approval of Absent Board Members  
There were no absences to approve.
2. Approval of Personnel Transactions  
Approved by vote on consent agenda.
3. Approval of Vendor Warrants  
Approved by vote on consent agenda.
4. Approval of Donations and Gifts  
Approved by vote on consent agenda.
5. Approval of Contracts  
Approved by vote on consent agenda.
6. Approval of Rosetta Stone Contract for Newcomer Student K-12  
Approved by vote on consent agenda.
7. Approval of Resolution Adopting a Conflict of Interest Code  
Approved by vote on consent agenda.
8. Approval of the submission of a Variable Term Waiver Request for BCLAD English Learner Authorization Requirements for a CCLA Teacher, Sandra L. Cortes  
Approved by vote on consent agenda.

G. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approval of Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting Held On September 9, 2020  
Director Medina requested the following amendments to the September 9, 2020 minutes:
  - Group consent items.
  - Transcribe the full hyperlink to view past Board Meeting recordings.
  - Add the Resolution No. 2020/21-12 to Recognize September 15 to October 15 as Latinx Heritage Month as an attachment to the minutes packet.

Motion Passed: Approval of Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting Held On September 9, 2020 upon completion of requested amendments.

Director Omar Lopez preferential vote: Aye.

Motion made by: Omar Medina

Motion seconded by: Jill McCormick



Voting

Alegria De La Cruz - Yes

Laurie Fong - Yes

Jenni Klose - Yes

Stephanie Manieri - Yes

Jill McCormick - Yes

Omar Medina - Yes

Ed Sheffield - Yes

H. BOARD MEMBER REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

I. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Future Board Items
2. Board Conduct and Code of Ethics
3. Educational Acronyms and Abbreviations

J. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

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Clerk of Board

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Date

### **Resolution Adopting a Conflict of Interest Code**

**WHEREAS**, the Political Reform Act, Government Code 87300-87313, requires each public agency in California to adopt a conflict of interest code; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governing Board of the Santa Rosa City Schools has previously adopted a local conflict of interest code; and

**WHEREAS**, past and future amendments to the Political Reform Act and implementing regulations may require conforming amendments to be made to the district's conflict of interest code; and

**WHEREAS**, a regulation adopted by the Fair Political Practices Commission, 2 CCR 18730, provides that incorporation by reference of the terms of that regulation, along with an agency-specific appendix designating positions and disclosure categories shall constitute the adoption and amendment of a conflict of interest code in conformance with Government Code 87300 and 87306; and

**WHEREAS**, Santa Rosa City Schools has recently reviewed its positions, and the duties of each position, and has determined that changes to the current conflict of interest code are necessary; and

**WHEREAS**, any earlier resolutions, bylaws, and/or appendices containing the district's conflict of interest code shall be rescinded and superseded by this resolution and Appendix; and

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Santa Rosa City Schools Governing Board adopts the following Conflict of Interest Code including its Appendix of Designated Employees and Disclosure Categories.

**PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED** this 23 day of September, 2020, by the following vote:

  
Alegria De La Cruz, Clerk of the Board

9/23/2020  
Date

## **Resolution Recognizing September 2020 as Suicide Prevention Awareness Month**

**WHEREAS**, suicide is a leading cause of death among youth that impacts students, family and the community. Research shows that the community in which youth reside is supportive factor in suicide prevention; and

**WHEREAS**, the month of September, 2020 is National Suicide Prevention Month when millions of people around the world join their voices to share a message of hope and healing; and

**WHEREAS**, resiliency begins early in life within families and schools, and can be strengthened and reinforced throughout the life span; and

**WHEREAS**, Striving for Zero, California's Strategic Plan for Suicide Prevention urges all Californians to play a role in suicide prevention and promoting health and wellness; and

**WHEREAS**, it is essential that we educate students about suicide and mental health, and the ways they affect all people in the community; and

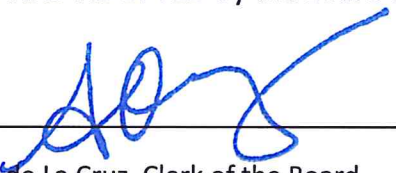
**WHEREAS**, in alignment with Suicide prevention board policy 5141.52, Santa Rosa City Schools seeks collaboration with school health professionals, school counselors, school psychologists, school social workers, nurses, administrators, teachers, other staff, parents/guardians, students, local health agencies, mental health professionals, and community organizations; and

**WHEREAS**, as part of a comprehensive health education plan, Santa Rosa City Schools suicide prevention practices involve communication that promotes resiliency, encourages help seeking behaviors, and develops action and resources that help prevent suicide; and

**WHEREAS**, these observances are united in raising awareness that prevention is possible;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that as the Superintendent of Santa Rosa City Schools, I proclaim that our schools will stand with the National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention in recognizing September as "National Suicide Prevention Awareness"

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of Education of the Santa Rosa City Schools on September 23, 2020



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Alegria de La Cruz, Clerk of the Board



# Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan Template (2020–21)

The instructions for completing the Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan is available at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/re/lc/documents/lrngcntntyatndncpln-instructions.docx>.

Local Educational Agency (LEA) Name	Contact Name and Title	Email and Phone
Santa Rosa City Schools	Dr. Diann Kitamura Superintendent	<a href="mailto:dkitamura@srcs.k12.ca.us">dkitamura@srcs.k12.ca.us</a> 707-890-3800 x80101
Santa Rosa Charter School for the Arts	Kristen Vogel Principal	<a href="mailto:kvogel@srcs.k12.ca.us">kvogel@srcs.k12.ca.us</a> 707-890-3920

## General Information

[A description of the impact the COVID-19 pandemic has had on the LEA and its community.]

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and under the guidance of the Sonoma County Health Department, the Sonoma County Office of Education, and the Office of the California Governor Gavin Newsom, Santa Rosa City Schools (SRCS) suspended in-person instruction and transitioned to distance learning on March 26, 2020. From that date through the end of the 2019-20 academic year, all instruction was delivered through a distance learning model where students participated in learning activities at home, with teachers delivering instruction through mostly digital platforms. The District distributed Chromebooks to students so that they could participate in distance learning and placed hotspots in areas where internet connectivity was insufficient to support online learning.

With an understanding that distance learning presented challenges to families and that students received differing levels of support at home, the District adjusted the grade reporting practices for the last grading period of the year. Before the school year ended, the District conducted a survey of all families and staff to understand better their situations and preferences for 2020-21 teaching and learning. On June 3, 2020, the District held a Special Board Meeting video conference to solicit further input from families and staff. In May, the District began to convene an Executive Committee and several subcommittees to begin to make recommendations for the development of the 2020-21 Return to School Plan. The Executive Committee and subcommittees worked throughout the summer to develop a plan while continuing to seek updated feedback from our constituents through surveys and Zoom meetings.

Due to the suspension of in-person learning, the regular rhythm and progression of student learning was interrupted across all grade levels and content areas. There were no universal screeners in place to monitor student progress remotely. Distance learning did not replicate the traditional classroom learning experience, despite our educators' best efforts during a sudden transition. The District recognized the challenges for parents and guardians who were helping their children with distance learning while also managing their own work responsibilities. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many SRCS families experienced stress due to lost income or lost jobs and, in some cases, were displaced from their housing. Many families also experienced food insecurity and benefited from the District's "grab and go" meal program. The shift to distance learning amid shelter-at-home guidance also impacted students' social wellbeing, emotional wellness, and physical health. Despite the diligent efforts of school staff to maintain student-school connections, the social isolation at home and lack of in-class interactions were hard for students and families. Families also expressed concerns about increased screen time for their children and how it might affect their stress levels and physical wellbeing.

Santa Rosa City Schools had planned to begin the 2020-21 school year with a hybrid learning model and two distance learning choices for families. However, the District recognized the need for flexibility and the ability to pivot based on guidance from the County Health Office. When Sonoma County was returned to the state's COVID-19 watchlist per the Governor's orders and public health guidance, the SRCS Board of Education resolved on July 22, 2020 to launch the new school year fully remotely, with a return to in-person learning when public health guidelines allow. Since making this decision, SRCS has continued to seek input from the community and respond to their concerns through public feedback at Board meetings and scheduled Q&A forums for family and staff.

## Stakeholder Engagement

[A description of the efforts made to solicit stakeholder feedback.]

Stakeholder engagement has been and continues to be integral to our planning and development as we navigate the impact of COVID-19 on our students, families, and staff. SRCS is fortunate to have an engaged community that has provided input and asked questions since we transitioned to distance learning on March 26, 2020. We used this input to create a Return to School Plan that is grounded in public health and science, educational best practices, and wellness practices that promote the mental and physical health of our community.

Prior to the close of the 2019-20 school year, the District surveyed our families and staff to gather data on people's situations, distance learning, and return-to-school models, with over 2,400 responses. The June 3rd Special Board Meeting video conference to seek further input from families and staff was attended by over 450 people. In May, the District convened an Executive Committee and several subcommittees to begin the process for developing the 2020-21 Return to School Plan.

The Executive Committee included representatives from the Santa Rosa Teachers Association (SRTA) and California School Employees Association – Chapter 75 (CSEA), school site administrators, and district office administrators. The subcommittee members, totaling 220 people, included students, parents, classified staff, certificated staff, and administrative staff. The subcommittees addressed six different topics: Health and Safety; Distance Learning for Health Compromised; Childcare; Elementary Instruction (KA-6); Middle School Instruction (7-8); and High School Instruction (9-12).



Each subcommittee established protocols, procedures, and meeting schedules to discuss, research, and prepare recommendations to present to the Executive Committee for inclusion in the final version of the plan. To further assist with this process, SRTA convened weekly Zoom focus groups (130 participating members) to help inform this work. Additionally, both SRCS and SRTA surveyed stakeholders to garner more input and guidance on the development of the plan.

On June 24, 2020, a Return to School Executive Committee Working Group was convened to create the draft version of the Return to School plan, which was further developed by the Executive Committee, the Executive Cabinet, and through negotiations with SRCS Classified Chapter 75 classified staff and SRTA certificated staff.

As SRCS prepared to return to school remotely, the District continued to seek staff and community input--as well as address questions—through public hearings at Board meetings and through Q&A Webinars. The Board meetings were held on: July 8<sup>th</sup>, July 22<sup>nd</sup>, Aug. 12<sup>th</sup>, and Aug. 26<sup>th</sup>.

The District held Q&A Webinars in separate sessions for staff and the community on July 30<sup>th</sup> and August 6<sup>th</sup>. The first staff session, held via Zoom, was attended by over 500 of our employees, with 300 participating in the second session. The community sessions were broadcast live via Zoom and Facebook, with separate sessions available to English and Spanish speakers. Many community members participated in each session. To facilitate discussion, attendees were encouraged to submit their questions in advance to a designated email address.

In addition to these efforts to communicate with staff and families, SRCS has also created a Return to School page on our website with English and Spanish resources to address FAQs, to explain different learning models, to provide updated meal information, and to provide guidance for different wellness options for family and staff.

The District values continued input from our community and will work to review and integrate additional feedback into our planning as we move forward in an extremely dynamic situation that requires our collective best thinking and practices.

#### [A description of the options provided for remote participation in public meetings and public hearings.]

Board meetings were open to the public via Facebook and then Zoom due to the shelter-at-home order. The meetings were open and accessible for all via remote participation. Public hearings are held at our regularly scheduled and agendaed Board meetings. The Friday before each Board meeting, the agenda is posted at the District Office and on the District website. Anyone wishing to speak on an item related to remote learning was given notice in these postings, with bilingual directions on how the process works.

Parents were notified about the July 30<sup>th</sup> and August 6<sup>th</sup> Q&A Webinars by District email and the ParentSquare communication application . Parents had the opportunity to participate in English and Spanish sessions via Facebook or Zoom.

#### [A summary of the feedback provided by specific stakeholder groups.]

In May 2020, families and staff (certificated and classified) responded to end-of-year surveys regarding their intentions for 2020-21 and their feelings about how teaching and learning would proceed during the continued pandemic. Over 1,800 families and over 600 staff members responded, with 72% percent of staff respondents identifying their position as certificated. The Santa Rosa Teachers Association (SRTA) also conducted a survey of its members, with 548 responding.

### **Strong Desire to Return to School/Workplace and Engage in Different Instructional Models**

In the survey of families, ninety-nine percent of respondents stated their child or children were returning to a SRCS school. For SRTA members, there was also a strong desire to return to school with safety precautions.

All constituents recognized that a return to school would probably look different than pre-COVID-19 due to restrictions on how schools would be allowed to operate. When asked about what learning models they would prefer, families said they preferred Socially-distanced In-person Learning (47%) or Hybrid Learning (46%). Santa Rosa City Schools staff, both classified and certificated, stated a preference for the Hybrid Model (45%), with 27% supporting the Socially-distanced In-person model. The least popular choice for families was fully remote learning (14%), while 28% of SRCS staff supported that model.

When asked how comfortable stakeholders would be in sending their children back to school or returning to the school/workplace, most families responded that they were comfortable or very comfortable (58%), with 32% stating they would be uncomfortable or very uncomfortable. The responses for SRCS staff showed that 40% of respondents felt comfortable or very comfortable returning to schools/workplaces, 31% were hesitant, and 30% stated they would feel uncomfortable or very uncomfortable.

When asked what concerned them about continued distance learning, teachers stated through the SRTA survey that they were either concerned or very concerned about the following topics:

63% Insufficient instructional time with all students to address all academic standards

66% Managing curriculum for the hybrid model (online and in-person learning)

61% Assessments and 1:1 testing

With regard to technology priorities that directly impact the ability to deliver remote learning, 92% of teachers responding cited a need for software licenses for programs, and new and better applications for distance learning. Ninety-three percent of respondents also stated a need for more technology support in order to teach remotely. Teachers cited these priorities technology priorities for students: 1:1 technology that allows students to participate fully in remote learning (92%); fully-established email accounts so student-teacher connection can begin immediately (85%), and adequate technology support (93%).

In the event that SRCS would not be able to return to full-time in-person learning, stakeholders were asked about their childcare solutions. Nearly fifty-two percent of respondents stated their child or children were old enough to supervise themselves. Thirty-six percent expressed that their child or children would be supervised by an immediate family member living in their home or by a family member or friend who lives close. Almost fourteen percent of family responses showed a need for fee-based childcare, with 10% stating they would need SRCS to provide fee-based childcare.

Classified and certificated staff responses stated that 12% would have childcare supervised by an immediate family member living in their home or by a family member or friend who lives close, with 16% stating a need for fee-based childcare. Seven percent expressed a need for SRCS fee-based childcare. Seventy-two percent of respondents said this question did not apply to them. This correlates to results from the SRTA survey where 68% of responding members shared they did not have childcare needs.

## **Safety**

For all stakeholders responding to SRCS surveys, safety was paramount to any return to school, whether it be full-time in-person learning or a hybrid model. All family responses were predicated on the basis that SRCS would adhere to all COVID-19 safety guidelines to keep children safe, as stated in the survey questions being asked.

Details from the SRTA survey reveal that 55% of members identify themselves as being in a high-risk category (underlying health condition, age, or caring for elderly). Among the certificated staff responding to the survey, 67% would like to come back to school with safety precautions. Sixty-nine percent of SRTA responses indicated an overwhelming demand for safety. Teachers recognized that many safety measures would be required to be safe at school under public health guidelines. Fifty-two percent of SRTA respondents called for identification and implementation of site teams to support COVID-19 health and safety protocols. Members stated that they are flexible about different learning models, as long as safety concerns are fully addressed:

53% Online learning only

55% Most online learning with in-person support for certain students

70% Hybrid model

41% In-person learning only

## **Supporting Students Socially, Emotionally, and Academically**

Through public forums such as Q&A Webinars and Board meetings, families consistently expressed concerns about their children's social and academic progress due to the March 26, 2020 suspension of in-person learning. As many families experienced economic loss, job loss, and food insecurity due to the pandemic, additional stress has been placed on all family members. During the spring distance learning, many students also mourned the loss of in-person learning and the social and emotional fulfillment it brings through daily peer interactions, with many struggling with the new-found isolation under shelter-at-home orders. All of this was no doubt compounded by Sonoma County's recent fires and our ongoing recovery from this trauma.

The SRTA survey results showed that teachers have great concern for students as they return to school, recognizing that they will need a lot of academic and social and emotional support. Thirty-four percent of teachers responding desired expanded Tier 2 program support for larger quantities of qualifying students, while 44% of responses indicated a need for additional health and human services professionals. Nearly half of those responding to the SRTA survey (49%), suggested training for families to increase empowerment on health and safety protocols and procedures.

Through public forums such as Q&A Webinars and Board meetings, families expressed concerns about their children's learning progress and possible learning loss due to the suspension of in-person during the spring. With the abrupt shift to distance learning, many felt underprepared to support their children's remote learning and some children had difficulty adjusting to distance learning.

The SRTA survey results indicated that the majority of those responding were concerned about student engagement (75%) and student accountability (71%). Additionally, these survey results identified several areas of interest for student learning when students returned to school in person or online:



- 60% Academic counseling, support, and intervention classes for students needing academic assistance
- 46% Modifications to ease transition back to in-person learning
- 76% Technology and curriculum support for newly introduced or mandated learning platforms
- 66% Elimination of all non-mandated high stakes testing to minimize encroachment into active instructional time
- 74% Plan for following up with non-engaged students

### **Professional Development and Collaboration**

In the year-end SRCS survey, teachers were asked to rate their ability to use certain technology tools. The majority of responding teachers felt comfortable or very comfortable using video conferencing tools (75%), Google Classroom (68%), and Google Applications (62%). In contrast, they stated that they needed support or would like some support with Seesaw (76%), screencasting tools (63%), and Illuminate Online Assessments (62%).

In the SRTA survey, teachers agreed or strongly agreed they had a need for two types of professional development: “one and done” (43%) and ongoing sessions (52%). In addition to professional development, teachers overwhelmingly stated a desire for collaboration with peers at the site-level (75%) and with job-alike colleagues in the District (59%). As a result of the isolation of distance learning during Spring 2020, teachers also expressed a desire to provide instruction more collaboratively through team models, with 36% of respondents wanting to building partnerships and 48% wanting to build a team. Directly related to this desire for collaboration and team models, teachers suggested that this might be the time to begin to explore and implement more Project-based Learning (PBL) as we analyze successful student engagement models of instruction (57% responded maybe and 18% affirmatively).

Teachers were also asked to identify their 2020-21 professional development priorities, with the following topics among those deemed important or very important:

- 79% Best practices for online teaching
- 77% Supporting equal access to learning for all students
- 74% Motivating students to participate in distance learning
- 88% Time to prepare for distance learning through collaboration with colleagues
- 85% Delivering efficient and effective instruction through the hybrid model
- 71% Expectations for Special Education case managers

In analyzing the stakeholder data, Santa Rosa City Schools identified six dominant themes that informed the development of the Return to School Plan and The Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan: Connection; Instruction; Safety; Technology; Communication; and Professional Development.

[A description of the aspects of the Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan that were influenced by specific stakeholder input.]

All aspects of this plan were directly influenced and made better by participating stakeholders as we established priorities that aligned with each of the six themes identified through the analysis of survey and meeting feedback:

### **Connection**

- Social-emotional wellness
- Connection to community partnership
- Relationship-building
- Back-to-school transitions

### **Instruction**

- Clear expectations
- Essential standards
- Flexible instructional strategies
- Assessment to guide instruction
- Access to support and intervention

### **Safety**

- Adherence to County Health guidelines
- Create safety protocols and systems
- COVID-19 training for students, parents, and staff
- Point-person for COVID-related topics

### **Technology**

- Technology access for all students
- Technology support for students and families
- Consistency with platforms and apps

### **Communication**

- Frequent, timely, and centralized communication
- Consistency
- Use of one platform by staff and teacher to communicate with students and parents

### **Professional Development**

- Need for learning, planning, and collaborating

- Collaboration time to design curriculum together (horizontally, vertically, and district-wide)
- In-person training for families

The wide range of input and requests from stakeholders also inspired the return-to-school working committee to identify these overarching principles that guided the decision-making process for this plan.

- Safeguard the health and safety of students and staff
- Comply with State, County Health Department, and Centers for Disease Control guidelines
- Consider feedback from diverse and multiple sources
- Ensure equitable access to teaching and learning (prioritize most vulnerable students, individualized student check-ins, consistent online experiences)
- Leverage resources to address achievement and opportunity gaps
- Adhere to established learning plans while remaining flexible
- Use an inclusive and fair decision-making process to revise established plans
- Leverage community resources to enhance planning
- Foster student learning and progress
- Reduce negative or unintended consequences
- Maintain positive learning and working environments

## Continuity of Learning

### In-Person Instructional Offerings

[A description of the actions the LEA will take to offer classroom-based instruction whenever possible, particularly for students who have experienced significant learning loss due to school closures in the 2019–2020 school year or are at a greater risk of experiencing learning loss due to future school closures.]

Given the uncertainty of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, in-person instruction may not be immediately allowable under state and local health orders. However, SRCS has recognized the need to be prepared to offer in-person instruction when possible. The State provided a waiver process to allow for in-person instruction for students in need

SRCS had planned to begin the 2020-21 school year by offering three learning model options to students and families, with the understanding that the dynamic COVID-19 situation may make it necessary to pivot:

#### 1. Hybrid Model (2 days at school, 3 days at home)

- Students assigned to one of the two cohorts (A or B) attending school either Monday and Tuesday **OR** Thursday and Friday.

- On the three days, they would not be in school, they would learn from home (or child care).
- On Wednesdays, all students would have a virtual check-in with their teacher or other support staff and the schools would be cleaned between cohorts.
- Teachers would be focusing on the essential standards of the California Standards and assessing students regularly to determine if any academic intervention is needed.
- Keep family members in the same cohort so they would be attending school on the same days.

## 2. Distance Learning Model (5 days at home)

- All teaching would be done virtually (on a computer/Chromebook) and class assignments would be provided via a district-wide common online platform.
- Students would have virtual classes with their teachers every day except for Wednesdays when they would have a virtual check-in with their teacher or other support staff.

## 3. Learning House Model (5 days at home)

- Would create a community of more than 100 learners from multiple school sites.
- Students would work with a small group of educators and build an online community.
- Students would build on their own strengths with real-world projects and integration of core subjects and electives.
- Intervention and enrichment would be embedded into students' process of learning.

When Sonoma County was returned to the state's COVID-19 watchlist per the Governor's orders and public health guidance, the SRCS Board of Education resolved on July 22, 2020 to launch the new school year fully remotely, following guidelines for Distance Learning Model #2 where students engage in remote learning 5 days per week.

When the District is given Public Health clearance to resume in-person learning, we will follow public health guidance.

## Actions Related to In-Person Instructional Offerings [additional rows and actions may be added as necessary]

Description	Total Funds	Contributing
classroom furniture to support in-person socially distance learning	45,000	Y
Cleaning and Sanitizing of SRCSA materials/ Social distancing signage	\$500.00	Y

## Distance Learning Program

### Continuity of Instruction

[A description of how the LEA will provide continuity of instruction during the school year to ensure pupils have access to a full curriculum of substantially similar quality regardless of the method of delivery, including the LEA's plan for curriculum and instructional resources that will ensure instructional continuity for pupils if a transition between in-person instruction and distance learning is necessary.]

In its work to prepare for the return to school, the District—through the work of the Return to School committees and subcommittees—identified and discussed models of instruction that would be most effective and flexible in the face of challenges due to

COVID-19. Ultimately, three models emerged from the committees and negotiations: Hybrid, Distance Learning, and Learning House. All three would accommodate the social distancing requirements of Sonoma County Health Orders, California Department of Education Guidelines, and the Sonoma County Road Map to Safe Reopening.

The Distance Learning Model is one of the 3 back-to-school models offered to families. It is also the model the District will use when there are school closures and students and staff cannot be at sites, when all instruction will be remote.

Distance Learning is designed to provide an Arts Integrated education similar to in-person learning the school provided prior to Distance Learning. The difference is all teaching will be done virtually and course work will be provided via Google Classroom and Seesaw. Students will be taught core instruction virtually every day except for Wednesdays when they will have a virtual check-in. Students receiving ELD instruction will receive this daily.

Distance Learning includes the following:

- Students meet with a group of classmates and teachers from their current school
- Middle school students have classes with teachers from different subject areas, just as they would in traditional school
- Access to content and assignments via Seesaw (grades KA-3), Google Classroom (grades 4-12) platforms and other online instructional platforms.
- Students will attend online school every day except Wednesday, when teachers are in professional development and have collaborative planning time. On that day, students will check-in with teachers but will not have online instruction
- Students enrolled in Santa Rosa Charter School for the Arts will be able to continue their education through Distance Learning provided by the school and supported by Santa Rosa City Schools.
- Students will continue to receive core instruction through Arts-Integration instructional methodologies.
- All learners are served, including Special Education, English Language Learners
- Intervention and enrichment opportunities will be provided
- Art Electives will be offered to middle school and elementary students.

## Access to Devices and Connectivity

[A description of how the LEA will ensure access to devices and connectivity for all pupils to support distance learning.]

With the support of Santa Rosa City Schools, Santa Rosa Charter School for the Arts will work to ensure equitable access to education for all students by providing adequate access to connectivity and technological devices to participate in the educational program and to complete assigned work. We will ensure that all students have access to devices and Wi-Fi.

The District recognized that many of the existing student Chromebooks were reaching obsolescence and developed a plan for cyclical replacement of Chromebooks. Student devices were deployed to students by August 17th, 2020. All students will be offered a device. Families that choose not to use a school device will need to explicitly state that their child has a device.

Families will receive information from their site principal. Teachers who expressed need will also be provided new laptops to ensure connectivity and support for students through distance learning. All staff will have access to their classrooms and school sites to ensure resources and connectivity as needed.

## Pupil Participation and Progress

[A description of how the LEA will assess pupil progress through live contacts and synchronous instructional minutes, and a description of how the LEA will measure participation and time value of pupil work.]

**Attendance:** The student is expected to check the teacher's distance learning platform (e.g., Google Classroom, Seesaw) and District Gmail and complete assignments. Students will have opportunities to check in with the teacher during specified times.

There are multiple ways to assess student progress and understanding of grade and subject level content. These may include content exams, projects, presentations, and performance tasks, among other things. Performance tasks may be described as multi-step academic exercises that allow students to demonstrate knowledge and content application, synthesis, creativity, etc., with content knowledge in a real and/or imagined context. Performance tasks are often accompanied by rubrics that allow for levels of performance and subtle differences in assessment feedback to students.

In hybrid, distance learning, and the Learning House, certain types of assessments such as performance tasks may be used more than others. Assessments may serve both formative and summative purposes, providing teachers the necessary information to make instructional decisions and supporting students in receiving feedback to adjust the demonstration of learning.

## Distance Learning Professional Development

[A description of the professional development and resources that will be provided to staff to support the distance learning program, including technological support.]

Santa Rosa City Schools is committed to supporting the professional growth of its staff, both certificated and classified. In response to the County's shelter-at-home order, a menu of professional development classes was offered virtually on Monday, April 13, 2020, focused on tools and strategies to support a distance learning model of instruction.

As we planned for return to school in August, the District recognized the need for additional, ongoing training and collaboration focused on highly effective tools, skills, and strategies for meeting the diverse needs of our students. To ensure equitable learning and social and emotional outcomes for all students during this new way of teaching and learning, as well as the expectation of AB 98, all staff are expected to attend professional development.

Considering District and SRTA survey data, as well as input from the various stakeholder committees, the following professional development topics and formats have been considered. This list is not exhaustive but rather reflects current needs and wants expressed by staff in light of these new models of instruction, hybrid and distance learning.

**Instruction:** essential standards; content specific; best practices for distance learning; strategies to motivate students in a distance learning environment; use of Newsela and Learning A-Z to support differentiation; effective lesson design for distance learning; Culturally,

Responsive, Sustaining and Humanizing Education (CRSH); strategies for engagement in district curriculum in a hybrid/distance learning format (e.g., *Everyday Math*, *Wonders*, etc.); flipped classroom; Project Based Learning; formative assessment; diagnostic tools such as MAP, Inspect and Let's Go Learn.

**Technology:** Google Classroom and Google Apps; screencasting tools; Zoom; Seesaw; Class Dojo; ParentSquare; creating engaging videos for online teaching and learning; class webpage development; Acellus; and other applications to enhance distance learning

**Social Emotional Wellness and Mental Health:** Trauma-informed care; self-care; psychological First Aid; class meetings; classroom community building; restorative practices; managing social media consumption; safety protocols and precautions; Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports (PBIS); addressing current events through grade level appropriate conversations; encouraging and supporting student voice and advocacy.

**Distance Learning Plans:** Distance learning plans for each individual student will provide an explanation of how the student's IEP will be executed in that model of instruction. Because a distance learning instructional model is different than an in-person instructional model there will be obvious variations in how the IEP will be executed.

## Staff Roles and Responsibilities

[A description of the new roles and responsibilities of affected staff as a result of COVID-19.]

In response to the COVID-19 crisis and as identified in the Return to School Plan, the District has created a new position, COVID Coordinator. This role's primary purpose is to coordinate COVID-19 related clear, consistent, and aligned information, processes, and protocols to staff district-wide. The COVID Coordinator will work closely with Business Services, Teaching and Learning, Student and Family Services, and Human Resources, as well as staff to provide resources and support to navigate information regarding COVID 19.

[CSEA 75 20-21 #3 MOU COVID-19 RTS](#)

[SRTA 20-21 #1 MOU COVID-19 RTS](#)

## Supports for Pupils with Unique Needs

[A description of the additional supports the LEA will provide during distance learning to assist pupils with unique needs, including English learners, pupils with exceptional needs served across the full continuum of placements, pupils in foster care, and pupils who are experiencing homelessness.]

**English Learners**

All English learners will be provided with a minimum of 30 minutes a day of Designated ELD instruction by a certificated staff member. This Designated ELD instruction shall be targeted at EL proficiency levels with groupings of not more than two proficiency levels, aligned to the 2012 California English Language Development Standards, focused on communicative purposes, not discrete grammar instruction, address the speaking, listening, reading and writing domains and include systematic development of academic vocabulary. For the secondary level,



this includes at least one period of Designated ELD per school day, with two periods for newcomer students, and is part of a comprehensive Designated ELD course sequence. Board-approved curriculum (*Wonders Designated ELD*, *Inside the U.S.*, *Inside*, and *Edge*) must be used to support the instruction.

For Distance Learning, the following guidelines are in place to ensure that EL students are served through remote teaching and learning:

Synchronous Designated ELD: live virtual lessons/meetings; phone calls; small group lessons; by proficiency levels with scaffolds; in mixed level groups for fluency building; teacher feedback and support as needed

Asynchronous Designated ELD: previously recorded lessons and videos; phone and text messages; ELD assignments/projects using approved ELD curriculum; paper and pencil activities; reading logs and journals; goal setting and reflection

### **Foster and Homeless Youth**

SRCS is committed to supporting the foster and homeless youth in the district in collaboration with the Sonoma County Office of Education. The District recognizes that additional challenges may occur for this population during the COVID-19 pandemic and is committed to providing the necessary support for their physical, emotional and academic health. This support takes the form of collaboration with students and families, school and district staff, and other county agencies in order to remove barriers to educational access and expand educational opportunities. Students identified as foster youth are supported by a comprehensive school counselor and therapeutic support through the District Integrated Wellness Center.

By removing barriers that occur due to frequent changes in home placement, SRCS helps to ensure that foster and homeless youth can benefit from uninterrupted educational access. AB 175 (Foster Youth Bill of Rights) provides protections for this vulnerable population of students. School districts are also responsible for ensuring that youth who are experiencing homelessness have full access to educational programs in accordance with the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

All Sonoma County students have the right to enroll in and attend school, even when housing becomes uncertain. If a child lacks “fixed, regular, and adequate housing,” federal and state laws require immediate school enrollment for that child – even without proof of residency or medical, school, or legal guardianship records.

McKinney-Vento and Foster Youth students have priority access to the district provided Chromebooks and hotspots during Distance Learning. Additionally, SRCS students housed in the Catholic Charities Family Shelter in Santa Rosa were also provided with headphones. SRCS Child Nutrition Services is also supporting students housed in the Catholic Charities Family Shelter by delivering meals.

### **Special Education**

To every extent possible, students with exceptional needs shall have the elements in their Individualized Education Program (IEP) met. This could include both in-person and distance learning settings. Students’ Case Managers will be required to meet with families to determine which, if any, services need to be adjusted.



During this time, regardless of the model, all elements of the Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) must be met. Service providers such as Speech and Language or Counseling services must continue to provide services, either through online services or in-person as developed in the IEP.

However, distance learning is not accessible to many students with exceptional needs. Many populations cannot have their developmental, educational, health and other needs met in an online environment.

Students with mild to moderate disabilities may benefit from hybrid models that include some time in-person and some time in the distance learning model depending on their age. These decisions will be made in consultation with the IEP Team. The IEP is the roadmap for each student with a disability, and in these challenging and evolving times including COVID-19 restrictions, it is critical that the IEP team meets and works with the family to jointly determine what is working for each student in distance learning and a hybrid environment as well as what accommodations and modality of learning allows the greatest access.

To support the student's access to the general education classroom within the hybrid and distance learning learning models, and and to meet the required elements of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), SRCS will:

- provide services in the IEP in the least restrictive setting

- meet current service obligations of all IEPs, or modify current IEPs to meet the needs of any changes in service

- all related Service Providers, School Psychologists, Speech and Language Pathologists, Adapted Physical Education, and School Nurses shall provide services to the students they are assigned as outlined in each student's IEP

**Distance learning plans for each individual student will provide an explanation of how the student's IEP will be executed in that model of instruction. Because a distance learning instructional model is different than an in-person instructional model there will be obvious variations in how the IEP will be executed.**

If families are experiencing any concerns with the distance learning or hybrid model, Case Managers and SRCS Program Managers are available to support students.

### **Advanced Learner Program and Services (ALPS)**

The Teacher on Special Assignment (TOSA) for ALPS will offer a series of enrichment classes for 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> graders once per week by grade level. Students will have the opportunity to identify projects of interest as they learn about the Icons of Depth and Complexity and concept-based learning. Each session will be 8 weeks long and will involve synchronous and asynchronous teaching and learning. Each session is limited to 20 students maximum.

### **Independent Study**

Independent Study is available for grades Kindergarten through 12th grade, and is authorized by the Board of Education in Board Policy 6158 as an optional, alternative instructional strategy for eligible students whose needs may be best met through study outside of the regular classroom setting. Students in this program generally work independently and meet with a teacher once a week. Independent study offers a

means of individualizing the educational plan to serve students who desire a more challenging educational experience, whose health or other personal circumstances make classroom attendance difficult, who are unable to access course(s) due to scheduling problems, and/or who need to make up credits or fill gaps in their learning.

Students who want to participate in Independent Study will work with their site administration according to a written agreement and under the general supervision of a credentialed teacher, or teachers. While independent study students follow the district-adopted curriculum and meet the district graduation requirements, independent study offers flexibility to meet individual student needs, interests, and styles of learning. The minimum number of days a student can enroll in Independent Study is 5 and the maximum is 18 days. To continue in Independent Study past 18 days, approval is needed from the administrator.

**Home and Hospital**

Home and Hospital will also be under the umbrella of the Learning House. The Home and Hospital Instruction Program (California Education Code Section 48206.3) and Board Policy 6183 serves students who incur a temporary disability, which makes attendance in the regular day classes or alternative education program impossible or inadvisable. Home-hospital serves students with a temporary disability in the student’s home or in a hospital or other residential health facility, excluding state hospitals. The parent or guardian will need to notify the school of the student’s presence in a qualifying hospital or facility or if at home. With the parent or guardian, a determination will be made regarding which option for continued learning may be best for the student: individualized instruction as provided by a home/hospital teacher or independent study.

**Actions Related to the Distance Learning Program [additional rows and actions may be added as necessary]**

Description	Total Funds	Contributing
Spring 2020 instructional materials remote learning packets (duplicating & mailing)	\$250.00	Y
Instructional materials to send home to students	5,997.18	Y
Staff laptops/desktops	\$46,500	Y
touch screen student devices	23,807.82	Y
IXL ELA and Math for Middle School students and K-8 SPED	1,238.00	Y
Lexia Reading site licenses for all KA-6 grade students	\$11,000	Y

**Pupil Learning Loss**

[A description of how the LEA will address pupil learning loss that results from COVID-19 during the 2019–2020 and 2020–21 school years, including how the LEA will assess pupils to measure learning status, particularly in the areas of English language arts, English language development, and mathematics.]

### **Elementary (KA-6)**

The District has revised the elementary assessment calendar to reflect the challenges of COVID-19 and remote learning. For the first trimester, the District has suspended the 1:1 assessments for DRA (K-2), DIBELS (3-6), and Beginning of Year Math (K-5). The District has made every effort to focus on trimesterly assessments that can be administered remotely and done independently by students (e.g., Let's Go Learn, MAP, Lucy Calkins Writing, CPM end of trimester benchmarks, etc.). Teachers are encouraged to use formative assessments that are part of the District-adopted curriculum (e.g. *Everyday Math*, *CPM*, *Wonders*, etc.) to monitor student learning, check for understanding, provide individual feedback, and differentiate instruction. With so many unknowns due to COVID-19, the 2020-21 elementary assessment calendar is subject to change and is a flexible living document.

### **Middle School (7-8)**

Teachers are encouraged to use formative assessments to monitor student learning, check for understanding, provide individual feedback, and differentiate instruction in reference to state common core standards. Teachers also administer MAP Growth assessment three times a year to target instruction through accurate, and actionable evidence. Special education teachers use these results to to develop goals and give in the moment data to demonstrate growth towards goals.

### **State-mandated Testing**

- Grades 3-8: SBAC ELA and Math
- Grades 5 and 8: CA Science Test (CAST)
- Grades 5, 7, California Physical Fitness Test
- K-12: English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC) administered to qualifying students in accordance with the law

## **Pupil Learning Loss Strategies**

[A description of the actions and strategies the LEA will use to address learning loss and accelerate learning progress for pupils, as needed, including how these strategies differ for pupils who are English learners; low-income; foster youth; pupils with exceptional needs; and pupils experiencing homelessness.]

### **The key strategies to address learning loss include:**

- address students' social and emotional wellbeing first
- use a comprehensive approach to formative assessments
- focus on assessments that already exist and are aligned with adopted instructional materials to provide stability for students and staff
- focus on essential standards (endurance, leverage, and readiness)
- target student skills individually to address rather than reteaching prior year content to the whole class
- address needs for equitable access for learning
- communicate with families clearly and frequently about student progress

The district will provide professional development and support for teachers and staff during the 2020-21 school year to address essential standards, learning loss and accelerate learning progress in a distance learning model to improve Tier 1 instruction. Professional

Development will also focus on student engagement and feedback as we explore Best Practices for Distance. Teachers will engage in thinking critically about increasing student engagement in distance learning.

## Effectiveness of Implemented Pupil Learning Loss Strategies

[A description of how the effectiveness of the services or supports provided to address learning loss will be measured.]

Teachers, site administrators and district administration will review data on a regular basis (each trimester and quarter) to determine if the learning loss strategies are showing student improvement on formative assessments, benchmark assessments, surveys, and student engagement. At the elementary level, the data for many assessments is entered in our data and assessment platform, Illuminate, making it easy to monitor students' progress on multiple assessments. Teachers can also administer short online assessments in Illuminate for easy grading and monitoring.

Should the pupil learning loss strategies used not prove to be effective for a student, teachers will analyze why and attempt to use different strategies to address student learning needs. The District encourages teachers to use common planning time to discuss common assessments they may be administering in order to calibrate scoring by reviewing some student work together. This process often leads to informative discussions about effective lessons and strategies that may benefit a larger student group.

Should a student not demonstrate expected academic growth after many attempts at remedying learning loss, the teacher may want to seek advice from site colleagues and/or the site's Student Success Team by reviewing different Tiers of support strategies.

The District will provide ongoing Professional Development about formative assessments, creating performance tasks, and how to motivate and engage students in distance learning.

## Actions to Address Pupil Learning Loss [additional rows and actions may be added as necessary]

Description	Total Funds	Contributing
Instructional materials to address students with special needs (special education)	\$1,500	Y
After school tutoring	\$1,500	Y
Art supplies for students to utilize at home to support distance learning	\$3,000	y

## Mental Health and Social and Emotional Well-Being

[A description of how the LEA will monitor and support mental health and social and emotional well-being of pupils and staff during the school year, including the professional development and resources that will be provided to pupils and staff to address trauma and other impacts of COVID-19 on the school community.]

Through the Multi-Tier System of Support (MTSS) structure, we support both the development of academic and social-emotional and behavioral well-being (or mental health). MTSS supports district-wide coordination of a continuum of support making sure that all students' needs are identified.

### **Tier 1: Universal Supports - Whole School Safety and Prevention Plan**

- SRCS has developed a system to connect with students and families to promote attendance.
- SRCS school sites will consider strategies to become a trauma-responsive school system to support the school community.
- SRCS will engage with students and families using culturally responsive techniques.
- SRCS is committed to using universal screening to identify the social-emotional needs of students.
- SRCS will use professional development time to increase trauma knowledge and skills.
- SRCS will engage staff in professional development about mental health de-stigmatization.
- SRCS will include information about mental health and wellness resources on the district and school websites and in communication with families.

### **Tier 1: Community and Family Wellness**

- SRCS will continue to collaborate with local government and private agencies to provide workshops and support services regarding adult and student mental health, trauma responsiveness, suicide prevention, and resilience.

### **Tier 1: Staff Wellness**

- SRCS acknowledges the importance of staff wellness and will work to support staff through the implementation of staff resilience, consultation, and mental health support.
- Prior to school opening, and ongoing, SRCS will provide training on secondary traumatic stress and self-care.
- SRCS District and Site Administrators will promote mindfulness techniques and staff social supports.
- SRCS Leadership is committed to open and routine communication with staff members, encouraging self-care (e.g., saying no, accepting oneself and others, not being at 100% all the time).
- SRCS will promote the use of staff support groups to enhance staff cohesion and coping.
- District Therapists and Social Workers will be available to staff for support and referral to mental health services when appropriate.

### **Tier 1: Classroom Strategies**

- SRCS will engage staff in professional development for social-emotional learning to help teachers learn tools and strategies to lower anxiety and stress exhibited by students.
- SRCS will encourage staff to establish and implement routines for both in-person and distance learning, which include welcoming inclusion activities, engagement strategies, and an optimistic closure to class.
- SRCS will encourage staff to include stress management and mindfulness practices in classroom routines.
- SRCS is participating in the Resilience in School Environments (RISE) program to assess and improve the social-emotional wellness of students and staff.
- SRCS will encourage teachers to ask their students how they are doing and refer to counseling when students are struggling.
- SRCS leadership and staff will consider the impact of stress and trauma when assessing and supporting students.

### **Tier 2 / 3: Early and Targeted Interventions for Students and Staff**

- SRCS is committed to scaling up Social Emotional Learning to promote social-emotional competencies among students and staff.
- SRCS will continue to offer staff mental health support through SOS Counseling.
- SRCS is committed to building to the capacity of student mental health services.
- Social-Emotional Wellness support will be provided by the school counselors, district school-based therapists/social workers, and community-based organizations who contract with SRCS (SAY, Lifeworks, and Humanidad).
- Mental health staff will provide services either in-person or through a telehealth platform.
- Mental health resources will be consistent across the district and district-wide mental health providers should be coordinating services. (School Psychologists, School Counselors, School-Based Clinicians, and School-Based Therapists)

## **Pupil and Family Engagement and Outreach**

[A description of pupil engagement and outreach, including the procedures for tiered reengagement strategies for pupils who are absent from distance learning and how the LEA will provide outreach to pupils and their parents or guardians, including in languages other than English, when pupils are not meeting compulsory education requirements, or if the LEA determines the pupil is not engaging in instruction and is at risk of learning loss.]

### **Attendance Plan**

In accordance with AB 98, attendance will be taken daily for each student. Absences will be recorded by the teacher of record in the Student Information System (SIS) each day as required by AB 98 and any other state or federal mandates.

For attendance-taking purposes, teachers mark students present or absent during in-person learning. Attendance for Distance Learning is met through the following synchronous and asynchronous learning and codes have been created to identify the engagement:

- evidence of participation in online activities
- completion of regular assignments
- completion of assessments
- or contacts between any SRCS staff member and a student or their parent or guardian through phone, emails, or any type of communication

A pupil who does not participate in a portion of distance learning on a school day shall be documented as absent for that school day.

Students who are absent from distance learning for more than three school days or 60 percent of the instructional days in a school week, shall be subject to a tiered re-engagement process. Weekly lists are provided to each site by the district's SAFE Office to begin the

re-engagement process and data is analyzed to discover patterns of absences, comparisons among the schools as well as within days of the week, and or differences among classrooms and grades.

## **Reengagement Process**

### **Tier 1**

- The automated messaging system will make daily phone calls for each day a student is marked absent by the teacher.
- Teachers or other SRCS employees will attempt to make contact with the student and parent.
- Attendance information will be available for parents through the Student Information Portal of the SIS.
- Teachers will create, publish, and inform students and parents of their grading practices in a hybrid or distance learning model.
- Assure assignments and grades are uploaded weekly.
- All contacts are documented in the Student Comments of the SIS

### **Tier 2**

- Students that are deemed 60% absent from the hybrid model or distance learning will be reported to the school site attendanceTeam that includes the attendance technician and administrator.
- School site may also choose to do a family home visit to better understand the issues concerning school engagement.
- As part of the re-engagement strategy, the school site attendance team will attempt to reach out and determine the cause for the absence. The Team will ensure that communication with the parent is working, phone dialer, emails, and internet access; determine if there is a breakdown in communication and make any corrections; and determine if the lack of participation is due to a lack of access and the site will take the necessary steps to ensure the issue is resolved.
- The parents will be informed that continued absences from distance learning could include: a conference with an administrator; development of an Attendance Plan through an Student Study Team (SST) process; through the SST process, other forms of support will also be discussed such as additional time needed, emotional or mental health supports, and potential greater academic supports and interventions; and discussion of the intervention of the student being removed from Distance Learning.

### **Tier 3**

- If the re-engagement strategies in Tiers 1 & 2 fail to improve distance learning attendance then a follow-up SST will be held,
- The school administrator may develop an Attendance Plan that includes: teacher engagement; both reward and consequences for further attendance,

- Review of the family circumstance for outside connection with health and social service;
- Meeting with District SAFE staff; and
- Make a recommendation to transitioning the student to full in-person learning.

## School Nutrition

[A description of how the LEA will provide nutritionally adequate meals for all pupils, including those students who are eligible for free or reduced-price meals, when pupils are participating in both in-person instruction and distance learning, as applicable.]

SRCS will offer breakfast and lunch meals to all students each school day. Non-Congregate Grab and Go meals breakfast and lunch meals will be offered each school day the student is not scheduled to be on campus. As of 9/8/2020 40.16% of students qualify for free or reduced-price meals.

## Additional Actions to Implement the Learning Continuity Plan [additional rows and actions may be added as necessary]

Section	Description	Total Funds	Contributing
Mental Health and Social Emotional Well-Being	Individual and small group therapy for students	23,000	Y
Professional Development	Professional Development focused on Arts Integration methodologies to support Distance Learning instruction	\$11,000	Y

## Increased or Improved Services for Foster Youth, English Learners, and Low-Income Students

Percentage to Increase or Improve Services	Increased Apportionment Based on the Enrollment of Foster Youth, English Learners, and Low-Income students
17.6%	\$174,293



## Required Descriptions

[For the actions being provided to an entire school, or across the entire school district or county office of education (COE), an explanation of (1) how the needs of foster youth, English learners, and low-income students were considered first, and (2) how these actions are effective in meeting the needs of these students.]

The needs of foster youth and McKinney-Vento youth were considered first when they were included in the SRCS plan to provide “support care for vulnerable populations,” which addressed the needs of Special Education Students and English Learners. The needs of homeless students were further considered when Student and Family Engagement staff was assigned to make contact with them and verify their housing status before the first week of school. The staff member reached out to each family and discussed the “support care” programs at Biella, Monroe, the Finley Center and at Salvation Army. Additionally, students were surveyed about their needs for accessing distance learning (Chromebooks and hotspots) and enrollment assistance was offered. Foster and homeless youth were also given priority status for district child care programs when they reopen. Making early personal contact with homeless families is especially effective for those students since they relocate frequently and often need assistance at the start of the school year.

[A description of how services for foster youth, English learners, and low-income students are being increased or improved by the percentage required.]

At-risk, or vulnerable students, have a prioritization when it comes to on-site childcare, as funded through the district. This childcare offers increased services in the areas of supporting the whole child during distance learning (through nutritious snacks and Social Emotional Learning activities) and providing supplemental support to vulnerable students. Additionally, students identified in these subgroups have been prioritized for access to internet hot-spots and device distribution.



# Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan Template (2020–21)

The instructions for completing the Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan is available at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/re/lc/documents/lrngcntntyatndncpln-instructions.docx>.

Local Educational Agency (LEA) Name	Contact Name and Title	Email and Phone
Santa Rosa City Schools Santa Rosa Accelerated Charter School (SRACS)	Dr. Diann Kitamura Superintendent Ed Navarro Principal	<a href="mailto:dkitamura@srcs.k12.ca.us">dkitamura@srcs.k12.ca.us</a> 707-890-3800 x80101 <a href="mailto:enavarro@srcs.k12.ca.us">enavarro@srcs.k12.ca.us</a> 707 890-3860

## General Information

[A description of the impact the COVID-19 pandemic has had on the LEA and its community.]

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and under the guidance of the Sonoma County Health Department, the Sonoma County Office of Education, and the Office of the California Governor Gavin Newsom, Santa Rosa City Schools (SRCS) suspended in-person instruction and transitioned to distance learning on March 26, 2020. From that date through the end of the 2019-20 academic year, all instruction was delivered through a distance learning model where students participated in learning activities at home, with teachers delivering instruction through mostly digital platforms. The District distributed Chromebooks to students so that they could participate in distance learning and placed hotspots in areas where internet connectivity was insufficient to support online learning.

With an understanding that distance learning presented challenges to families and that students received differing levels of support at home, the District adjusted the grade reporting practices for the last grading period of the year. Before the school year ended, the District conducted a survey of all families and staff to understand better their situations and preferences for 2020-21 teaching and learning. On June 3, 2020, the District held a Special Board Meeting video conference to solicit further input from families and staff. In May, the District began to convene an Executive Committee and several subcommittees to begin to make recommendations for the development of the 2020-21 Return to School Plan. The Executive Committee and subcommittees worked throughout the summer to develop a plan while continuing to seek updated feedback from our constituents through surveys and Zoom meetings.

Due to the suspension of in-person learning, the regular rhythm and progression of student learning was interrupted across all grade levels and content areas. There were no universal screeners in place to monitor student progress remotely. Distance learning did not replicate the

traditional classroom learning experience, despite our educators’ best efforts during a sudden transition. The District recognized the challenges for parents and guardians who were helping their children with distance learning while also managing their own work responsibilities. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many SRCS families experienced stress due to lost income or lost jobs and, in some cases, were displaced from their housing. Many families also experienced food insecurity and benefited from the District’s “grab and go” meal program. The shift to distance learning amid shelter-at-home guidance also impacted students’ social wellbeing, emotional wellness, and physical health. Despite the diligent efforts of school staff to maintain student-school connections, the social isolation at home and lack of in-class interactions were hard for students and families. Families also expressed concerns about increased screen time for their children and how it might affect their stress levels and physical wellbeing.

Santa Rosa City Schools had planned to begin the 2020-21 school year with a hybrid learning model and two distance learning choices for families. However, the District recognized the need for flexibility and the ability to pivot based on guidance from the County Health Office. When Sonoma County was returned to the state’s COVID-19 watchlist per the Governor’s orders and public health guidance, the SRCS Board of Education resolved on July 22, 2020 to launch the new school year fully remotely, with a return to in-person learning when public health guidelines allow. Since making this decision, SRCS has continued to seek input from the community and respond to their concerns through public feedback at Board meetings and scheduled Q&A forums for family and staff.

## Stakeholder Engagement

[A description of the efforts made to solicit stakeholder feedback.]

Stakeholder engagement has been and continues to be integral to our planning and development as we navigate the impact of COVID-19 on our students, families, and staff. SRCS is fortunate to have an engaged community that has provided input and asked questions since we transitioned to distance learning on March 26, 2020. We used this input to create a Return to School Plan that is grounded in public health and science, educational best practices, and wellness practices that promote the mental and physical health of our community.

Prior to the close of the 2019-20 school year, the District surveyed our families and staff to gather data on people’s situations, distance learning, and return-to-school models, with over 2,400 responses. The June 3rd Special Board Meeting video conference to seek further input from families and staff was attended by over 450 people. In May, the District convened an Executive Committee and several subcommittees to begin the process for developing the 2020-21 Return to School Plan.

The Executive Committee included representatives from the Santa Rosa Teachers Association (SRTA) and Santa Rosa Classified – Chapter 75 (CSEA), school site administrators, and district office administrators. The subcommittee members, totaling 220 people, included students, parents, classified staff, certificated staff, and administrative staff. The subcommittees addressed six different topics: Health and Safety; Distance Learning for Health Compromised; Childcare; Elementary Instruction (KA-6); Middle School Instruction (7-8); and High School Instruction (9-12).

Each subcommittee established protocols, procedures, and meeting schedules to discuss, research, and prepare recommendations to present to the Executive Committee for inclusion in the final version of the plan. To further assist with this process, SRTA convened weekly

Zoom focus groups (130 participating members) to help inform this work. Additionally, both SRCS and SRTA surveyed stakeholders to garner more input and guidance on the development of the plan.

On June 24, 2020, a Return to School Executive Committee Working Group was convened to create the draft version of the Return to School plan, which was further developed by the Executive Committee, the Executive Cabinet, and through negotiations with SRCS Classified Chapter 75 classified staff and SRTA certificated staff.

As SRCS prepared to return to school remotely, the District continued to seek staff and community input--as well as address questions—through public hearings at Board meetings and through Q&A Webinars. The Board meetings were held on: July 8<sup>th</sup>, July 22<sup>nd</sup>, Aug. 12<sup>th</sup>, and Aug. 26<sup>th</sup>.

The District held Q&A Webinars in separate sessions for staff and the community on July 30<sup>th</sup> and August 6<sup>th</sup>. The first staff session, held via Zoom, was attended by over 500 of our employees, with 300 participating in the second session. The community sessions were broadcast live via Zoom and Facebook, with separate sessions available to English and Spanish speakers. Many community members participated in each session. To facilitate discussion, attendees were encouraged to submit their questions in advance to a designated email address.

In addition to these efforts to communicate with staff and families, SRCS has also created a Return to School page on our website with English and Spanish resources to address FAQs, to explain different learning models, to provide updated meal information, and to provide guidance for different wellness options for family and staff.

The District values continued input from our community and will work to review and integrate additional feedback into our planning as we move forward in an extremely dynamic situation that requires our collective best thinking and practices.

#### [A description of the options provided for remote participation in public meetings and public hearings.]

Board meetings were open to the public via Facebook and then Zoom due to the shelter-at-home order. The meetings were open and accessible for all via remote participation. Public hearings are held at our regularly scheduled and agendaized Board meetings. The Friday before each Board meeting, the agenda is posted at the District Office and on the District website. Anyone wishing to speak on an item related to remote learning was given notice in these postings, with bilingual directions on how the process works.

Parents were notified about the July 30<sup>th</sup> and August 6<sup>th</sup> Q&A Webinars by District email and the ParentSquare communication application . Parents had the opportunity to participate in English and Spanish sessions via Facebook or Zoom.

#### [A summary of the feedback provided by specific stakeholder groups.]

In May 2020, families and staff (certificated and classified) responded to end-of-year surveys regarding their intentions for 2020-21 and their feelings about how teaching and learning would proceed during the continued pandemic. Over 1,800 families and over 600 staff members responded, with 72% percent of staff respondents identifying their position as certificated. The Santa Rosa Teachers Association (SRTA) also conducted a survey of its members, with 548 responding.

#### **Strong Desire to Return to School/Workplace and Engage in Different Instructional Models**

In the survey of families, ninety-nine percent of respondents stated their child or children were returning to a SRCS school. For SRTA members, there was also a strong desire to return to school with safety precautions.

All constituents recognized that a return to school would probably look different than pre-COVID-19 due to restrictions on how schools would be allowed to operate. When asked about what learning models they would prefer, families said they preferred Socially-distanced In-person Learning (47%) or Hybrid Learning (46%). Santa Rosa City Schools staff, both classified and certificated, stated a preference for the Hybrid Model (45%), with 27% supporting the Socially-distanced In-person model. The least popular choice for families was fully remote learning (14%), while 28% of SRCS staff supported that model.

When asked how comfortable stakeholders would be in sending their children back to school or returning to the school/workplace, most families responded that they were comfortable or very comfortable (58%), with 32% stating they would be uncomfortable or very uncomfortable. The responses for SRCS staff showed that 40% of respondents felt comfortable or very comfortable returning to schools/workplaces, 31% were hesitant, and 30% stated they would feel uncomfortable or very uncomfortable.

When asked what concerned them about continued distance learning, teachers stated through the SRTA survey that they were either concerned or very concerned about the following topics:

63% Insufficient instructional time with all students to address all academic standards

66% Managing curriculum for the hybrid model (online and in-person learning)

61% Assessments and 1:1 testing

With regard to technology priorities that directly impact the ability to deliver remote learning, 92% of teachers responding cited a need for software licenses for programs, and new and better applications for distance learning. Ninety-three percent of respondents also stated a need for more technology support in order to teach remotely. Teachers cited these priorities technology priorities for students: 1:1 technology that allows students to participate fully in remote learning (92%); fully-established email accounts so student-teacher connection can begin immediately (85%), and adequate technology support (93%).

In the event that SRCS would not be able to return to full-time in-person learning, stakeholders were asked about their childcare solutions. Nearly fifty-two percent of respondents stated their child or children were old enough to supervise themselves. Thirty-six percent expressed that their child or children would be supervised by an immediate family member living in their home or by a family member or friend who lives close. Almost fourteen percent of family responses showed a need for fee-based childcare, with 10% stating they would need SRCS to provide fee-based childcare.

Classified and certificated staff responses stated that 12% would have childcare supervised by an immediate family member living in their home or by a family member or friend who lives close, with 16% stating a need for fee-based childcare. Seven percent expressed a need for SRCS fee-based childcare. Seventy-two percent of respondents said this question did not apply to them. This correlates to results from the SRTA survey where 68% of responding members shared they did not have childcare needs.

## **Safety**

For all stakeholders responding to SRCS surveys, safety was paramount to any return to school, whether it be full-time in-person learning or a hybrid model. All family responses were predicated on the basis that SRCS would adhere to all COVID-19 safety guidelines to keep children safe, as stated in the survey questions being asked.

Details from the SRTA survey reveal that 55% of members identify themselves as being in a high-risk category (underlying health condition, age, or caring for elderly). Among the certificated staff responding to the survey, 67% would like to come back to school with safety precautions. Sixty-nine percent of SRTA responses indicated an overwhelming demand for safety. Teachers recognized that many safety measures would be required to be safe at school under public health guidelines. Fifty-two percent of SRTA respondents called for identification and implementation of site teams to support COVID-19 health and safety protocols. Members stated that they are flexible about different learning models, as long as safety concerns are fully addressed:

53% Online learning only

55% Most online learning with in-person support for certain students

70% Hybrid model

41% In-person learning only

### **Supporting Students Socially, Emotionally, and Academically**

Through public forums such as Q&A Webinars and Board meetings, families consistently expressed concerns about their children’s social and academic progress due to the March 26, 2020 suspension of in-person learning. As many families experienced economic loss, job loss, and food insecurity due to the pandemic, additional stress has been placed on all family members. During the spring distance learning, many students also mourned the loss of in-person learning and the social and emotional fulfillment it brings through daily peer interactions, with many struggling with the new-found isolation under shelter-at-home orders. All of this was no doubt compounded by Sonoma County’s recent fires and our ongoing recovery from this trauma.

The SRTA survey results showed that teachers have great concern for students as they return to school, recognizing that they will need a lot of academic and social and emotional support. Thirty-four percent of teachers responding desired expanded Tier 2 program support for larger quantities of qualifying students, while 44% of responses indicated a need for additional health and human services professionals. Nearly half of those responding to the SRTA survey (49%), suggested training for families to increase empowerment on health and safety protocols and procedures.

Through public forums such as Q&A Webinars and Board meetings, families expressed concerns about their children’s learning progress and possible learning loss due to the suspension of in-person during the spring. With the abrupt shift to distance learning, many felt underprepared to support their children’s remote learning and some children had difficulty adjusting to distance learning.

The SRTA survey results indicated that the majority of those responding were concerned about student engagement (75%) and student accountability (71%). Additionally, these survey results identified several areas of interest for student learning when students returned to school in person or online:

60% Academic counseling, support, and intervention classes for students needing academic assistance



- 46% Modifications to ease transition back to in-person learning
- 76% Technology and curriculum support for newly introduced or mandated learning platforms
- 66% Elimination of all non-mandated high stakes testing to minimize encroachment into active instructional time
- 74% Plan for following up with non-engaged students

### **Professional Development and Collaboration**

In the year-end SRCS survey, teachers were asked to rate their ability to use certain technology tools. The majority of responding teachers felt comfortable or very comfortable using video conferencing tools (75%), Google Classroom (68%), and Google Applications (62%). In contrast, they stated that they needed support or would like some support with Seesaw (76%), screencasting tools (63%), and Illuminate Online Assessments (62%).

In the SRTA survey, teachers agreed or strongly agreed they had a need for two types of professional development: “one and done” (43%) and ongoing sessions (52%). In addition to professional development, teachers overwhelmingly stated a desire for collaboration with peers at the site-level (75%) and with job-alike colleagues in the District (59%). As a result of the isolation of distance learning during Spring 2020, teachers also expressed a desire to provide instruction more collaboratively through team models, with 36% of respondents wanting to build partnerships and 48% wanting to build a team. Directly related to this desire for collaboration and team models, teachers suggested that this might be the time to begin to explore and implement more Project-based Learning (PBL) as we analyze successful student engagement models of instruction (57% responded maybe and 18% affirmatively).

Teachers were also asked to identify their 2020-21 professional development priorities, with the following topics among those deemed important or very important:

- 79% Best practices for online teaching
- 77% Supporting equal access to learning for all students
- 74% Motivating students to participate in distance learning
- 88% Time to prepare for distance learning through collaboration with colleagues
- 85% Delivering efficient and effective instruction through the hybrid model
- 71% Expectations for Special Education case managers

In analyzing the stakeholder data, Santa Rosa City Schools identified six dominant themes that informed the development of the Return to School Plan and The Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan: Connection; Instruction; Safety; Technology; Communication; and Professional Development.

[A description of the aspects of the Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan that were influenced by specific stakeholder input.]

All aspects of this plan were directly influenced and made better by participating stakeholders as we established priorities that aligned with each of the six themes identified through the analysis of survey and meeting feedback:

### **Connection**

- Social-emotional wellness
- Connection to community partnership
- Relationship-building
- Back-to-school transitions

### **Instruction**

- Clear expectations
- Essential standards
- Flexible instructional strategies
- Assessment to guide instruction
- Access to support and intervention

### **Safety**

- Adherence to County Health guidelines
- Create safety protocols and systems
- COVID-19 training for students, parents, and staff
- Point-person for COVID-related topics

### **Technology**

- Technology access for all students
- Technology support for students and families
- Consistency with platforms and apps

### **Communication**

- Frequent, timely, and centralized communication
- Consistency
- Use of one platform by staff and teacher to communicate with students and parents

### **Professional Development**

- Need for learning, planning, and collaborating



- Collaboration time to design curriculum together (horizontally, vertically, and district-wide)
- In-person training for families

The wide range of input and requests from stakeholders also inspired the return-to-school working committee to identify these overarching principles that guided the decision-making process for this plan.

- Safeguard the health and safety of students and staff
- Comply with State, County Health Department, and Centers for Disease Control guidelines
- Consider feedback from diverse and multiple sources
- Ensure equitable access to teaching and learning (prioritize most vulnerable students, individualized student check-ins, consistent online experiences)
- Leverage resources to address achievement and opportunity gaps
- Adhere to established learning plans while remaining flexible
- Use an inclusive and fair decision-making process to revise established plans
- Leverage community resources to enhance planning
- Foster student learning and progress
- Reduce negative or unintended consequences
- Maintain positive learning and working environments

## Continuity of Learning

### In-Person Instructional Offerings

[A description of the actions the LEA will take to offer classroom-based instruction whenever possible, particularly for students who have experienced significant learning loss due to school closures in the 2019–2020 school year or are at a greater risk of experiencing learning loss due to future school closures.]

Given the uncertainty of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, in-person instruction may not be immediately allowable under state and local health orders. However, SRCS has recognized the need to be prepared to offer in-person instruction when possible. The State provided a waiver process to allow for in-person instruction for students in need

SRCS had planned to begin the 2020-21 school year by offering three learning model options to students and families, with the understanding that the dynamic COVID-19 situation may make it necessary to pivot:

#### 1. Hybrid Model (2 days at school, 3 days at home)

- Students assigned to one of the two cohorts (A or B) attending school either Monday and Tuesday **OR** Thursday and Friday.

- On the three days, they would not be in school, they would learn from home (or child care).
- On Wednesdays, all students would have a virtual check-in with their teacher or other support staff and the schools would be cleaned between cohorts.
- Teachers would be focusing on the essential standards of the California Standards and assessing students regularly to determine if any academic intervention is needed.
- Keep family members in the same cohort so they would be attending school on the same days.

## 2. Distance Learning Model (5 days at home)

- All teaching would be done virtually (on a computer/Chromebook) and class assignments would be provided via a district-wide common online platform.
- Students would have virtual classes with their teachers every day except for Wednesdays when they would have a virtual check-in with their teacher or other support staff.

## 3. Learning House Model (5 days at home)

- Would create a community of more than 100 learners from multiple school sites.
- Students would work with a small group of educators and build an online community.
- Students would build on their own strengths with real-world projects and integration of core subjects and electives.
- Intervention and enrichment would be embedded into students' process of learning.

When Sonoma County was returned to the state's COVID-19 watchlist per the Governor's orders and public health guidance, the SRCS Board of Education resolved on July 22, 2020 to launch the new school year fully remotely, following guidelines for Distance Learning Model #2 where students engage in remote learning 5 days per week.

When the District is given Public Health clearance to resume in-person learning, we will follow public health guidance.

## Actions Related to In-Person Instructional Offerings [additional rows and actions may be added as necessary]

Description	Total Funds	Contributing
School Cleaning and Sanitizing and social distancing signage	\$ 1000.00	Y
Classroom furniture to support in person socially distant learning	\$ 10000.00	Y

## Distance Learning Program

### Continuity of Instruction

[A description of how the LEA will provide continuity of instruction during the school year to ensure pupils have access to a full curriculum of substantially similar quality regardless of the method of delivery, including the LEA's plan for curriculum and instructional resources that will ensure instructional continuity for pupils if a transition between in-person instruction and distance learning is necessary.]

In its work to prepare for the return to school, the District—through the work of the Return to School committees and subcommittees—identified and discussed models of instruction that would be most effective and flexible in the face of challenges due to

COVID-19. Ultimately, three models emerged from the committees and negotiations: Hybrid, Distance Learning, and Learning House. All three would accommodate the social distancing requirements of Sonoma County Health Orders, California Department of Education Guidelines, and the Sonoma County Road Map to Safe Reopening.

The Distance Learning Model is one of the 3 back-to-school models offered to families. It is also the model the District will use when there are school closures and students and staff cannot be at sites, when all instruction will be remote.

Santa Rosa Accelerated Charter school provides Distance Learning designed to provide an accelerated education similar to in-person learning prior to distance learning. The difference is all teaching will be done virtually and course work will be provided via Google Classroom and Seesaw. Students will be taught core virtually every day except for Wednesdays when they will have a virtual check-in. Students receiving ELD instruction will receive it daily.

Distance Learning includes the following:

- Students meet with a group of classmates and teachers from their current school

- Access to content and assignments via Google Classroom (grades 4-12) platforms and other online platforms such as Zoom
- Students will attend online school every day except Wednesday, when teachers are in professional development and have collaborative planning time. On that day, students will check-in with teachers but will not have online instruction
- Students will learn and use the icons of Depth and Complexity as they would have prior to distance learning.

- Students enrolled in Santa Rosa Accelerated Charter School will be able to continue their education through Distance Learning provided by the school and supported by Santa Rosa City Schools.
- All learners are served, including Special Education, English Language Learners
- Intervention and enrichment opportunities will be provided
- Electives will be offered

## Access to Devices and Connectivity

[A description of how the LEA will ensure access to devices and connectivity for all pupils to support distance learning.]

With the support from Santa Rosa City Schools, Santa Rosa Accelerated Charter School will work to ensure equitable access to education for all students by providing adequate access to connectivity and technological devices to participate in the educational program and to complete assigned work. We will ensure that all students have access to devices and Wi-Fi.

The District recognized that many of the existing student Chromebooks were reaching obsolescence and developed a plan for cyclical replacement of Chromebooks. Student devices will be deployed by August 17, the first day of school. All students will be offered a device. Families that choose not to use a school device will need to explicitly state that their child has a device.

Families will receive information from their site principal. Teachers who expressed need will also be provided new laptops to ensure connectivity and support for students through distance learning. All staff will have access to their classrooms and school sites to ensure resources and connectivity as needed.

**Pupil Participation and Progress**

[A description of how the LEA will assess pupil progress through live contacts and synchronous instructional minutes, and a description of how the LEA will measure participation and time value of pupil work.]

Attendance: The student is expected to check the teacher’s distance learning platform (e.g., Google Classroom, Seesaw) and District Gmail and complete assignments. Students will have opportunities to check in with the teacher during specified times.

There are multiple ways to assess student progress and understanding of grade and subject level content. These may include content exams, projects, presentations, and performance tasks, among other things. Performance tasks may be described as multi-step academic exercises that allow students to demonstrate knowledge and content application, synthesis, creativity, etc., with content knowledge in a real and/or imagined context. Performance tasks are often accompanied by rubrics that allow for levels of performance and subtle differences in assessment feedback to students.

In hybrid, distance learning, and the Learning House, certain types of assessments such as performance tasks may be used more than others. Assessments may serve both formative and summative purposes, providing teachers the necessary information to make instructional decisions and supporting students in receiving feedback to adjust the demonstration of learning.

**Distance Learning Professional Development**

[A description of the professional development and resources that will be provided to staff to support the distance learning program, including technological support.]

Santa Rosa City Schools is committed to supporting the professional growth of its staff, both certificated and classified. In response to the County’s shelter-at-home order, a menu of professional development classes was offered virtually on Monday, April 13, 2020, focused on tools and strategies to support a distance learning model of instruction.

As we planned for return to school in August, the District recognized the need for additional, ongoing training and collaboration focused on highly effective tools, skills, and strategies for meeting the diverse needs of our students. To ensure equitable learning and social and emotional outcomes for all students during this new way of teaching and learning, as well as the expectation of AB 98, all staff are expected to attend professional development.

Considering District and SRTA survey data, as well as input from the various stakeholder committees, the following professional development topics and formats have been considered. This list is not exhaustive but rather reflects current needs and wants expressed by staff in light of these new models of instruction, hybrid and distance learning.

**Instruction:** essential standards; content specific; best practices for distance learning; strategies to motivate students in a distance learning environment; use of Newsela and Learning A-Z to support differentiation; effective lesson design for distance learning; Culturally, Responsively, Sustaining and Humanizing Education (CRSH); strategies for engagement in district curriculum in a hybrid/distance learning format (e.g., *Everyday Math*, *Wonders*, etc.); flipped classroom; Project Based Learning; formative assessment; diagnostic tools such as MAP, Inspect and Let's Go Learn.

**Technology:** Google Classroom and Google Apps; screencasting tools; Zoom; Seesaw; Class Dojo; ParentSquare; creating engaging videos for online teaching and learning; class webpage development; Acellus; and other applications to enhance distance learning

**Social Emotional Wellness and Mental Health:** Trauma-informed care; self-care; psychological First Aid; class meetings; classroom community building; restorative practices; managing social media consumption; safety protocols and precautions; Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports (PBIS); addressing current events through grade level appropriate conversations; encouraging and supporting student voice and advocacy.

**Distance Learning Plans:** Distance learning plans for each individual student will provide an explanation of how the student's IEP will be executed in that model of instruction. Because a distance learning instructional model is different than an in-person instructional model there will be obvious variations in how the IEP will be executed.

## Staff Roles and Responsibilities

[A description of the new roles and responsibilities of affected staff as a result of COVID-19.]

In response to the COVID-19 crisis and as identified in the Return to School Plan, the District has created a new position, COVID Coordinator. This role's primary purpose is to coordinate COVID-19 related clear, consistent, and aligned information, processes, and protocols to staff district-wide. The COVID Coordinator will work closely with Business Services, Teaching and Learning, Student and Family Services, and Human Resources, as well as staff to provide resources and support to navigate information regarding COVID 19.

[CSEA 75 20-21 #3 MOU COVID-19 RTS](#)

[SRTA 20-21 #1 MOU COVID-19 RTS](#)

## Supports for Pupils with Unique Needs

[A description of the additional supports the LEA will provide during distance learning to assist pupils with unique needs, including English learners, pupils with exceptional needs served across the full continuum of placements, pupils in foster care, and pupils who are experiencing homelessness.]

## **English Learners**

All English learners will be provided with a minimum of 30 minutes a day of Designated ELD instruction by a certificated staff member. This Designated ELD instruction shall be targeted at EL proficiency levels with groupings of not more than two proficiency levels, aligned to the 2012 California English Language Development Standards, focused on communicative purposes, not discrete grammar instruction, address the speaking, listening, reading and writing domains and include systematic development of academic vocabulary. For the secondary level, this includes at least one period of Designated ELD per school day, with two periods for newcomer students, and is part of a comprehensive Designated ELD course sequence. Board-approved curriculum (*Wonders Designated ELD*, *Inside the U.S.*, *Inside*, and *Edge*) must be used to support the instruction.

For Distance Learning, the following guidelines are in place to ensure that EL students are served through remote teaching and learning:

Synchronous Designated ELD: live virtual lessons/meetings; phone calls; small group lessons; by proficiency levels with scaffolds; in mixed level groups for fluency building; teacher feedback and support as needed

Asynchronous Designated ELD: previously recorded lessons and videos; phone and text messages; ELD assignments/projects using approved ELD curriculum; paper and pencil activities; reading logs and journals; goal setting and reflection

## **Foster and Homeless Youth**

SRCS is committed to supporting the foster and homeless youth in the district in collaboration with the Sonoma County Office of Education. The District recognizes that additional challenges may occur for this population during the COVID-19 pandemic and is committed to providing the necessary support for their physical, emotional and academic health. This support takes the form of collaboration with students and families, school and district staff, and other county agencies in order to remove barriers to educational access and expand educational opportunities. Students identified as foster youth are supported by the comprehensive school counselor and therapeutic support through our district Wellness Center.

By removing barriers that occur due to frequent changes in home placement, SRCS helps to ensure that foster and homeless youth can benefit from uninterrupted educational access. AB 175 (Foster Youth Bill of Rights) provides protections for this vulnerable population of students. School districts are also responsible for ensuring that youth who are experiencing homelessness have full access to educational programs in accordance with the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

All Sonoma County students have the right to enroll in and attend school, even when housing becomes uncertain. If a child lacks “fixed, regular, and adequate housing,” federal and state laws require immediate school enrollment for that child – even without proof of residency or medical, school, or legal guardianship records.

McKinney-Vento and Foster Youth students have priority access to the district provided Chromebooks and hotspots during Distance Learning. Additionally, SRCS students housed in the Catholic Charities Family Shelter in Santa Rosa were also provided with headphones. SRCS Child Nutrition Services is also supporting students housed in the Catholic Charities Family Shelter by delivering meals.

## **Special Education**

To every extent possible, students with exceptional needs shall have the elements in their Individualized Education Program (IEP) met. This could include both in-person and distance learning settings. Students' Case Managers will be required to meet with families to determine which, if any, services need to be adjusted.

During this time, regardless of the model, all elements of the Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) must be met. Service providers such as Speech and Language or Counseling services must continue to provide services, either through online services or in-person as developed in the IEP.

However, distance learning is not accessible to many students with exceptional needs. Many populations cannot have their developmental, educational, health and other needs met in an online environment.

Students with mild to moderate disabilities may benefit from hybrid models that include some time in-person and some time in the distance learning model depending on their age. These decisions will be made in consultation with the IEP Team. The IEP is the roadmap for each student with a disability, and in these challenging and evolving times including COVID-19 restrictions, it is critical that the IEP team meets and works with the family to jointly determine what is working for each student in distance learning and a hybrid environment as well as what accommodations and modality of learning allows the greatest access.

To support the student's access to the general education classroom within the hybrid and distance learning learning models, and and to meet the required elements of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), SRCS will:

- provide services in the IEP in the least restrictive setting

- meet current service obligations of all IEPs, or modify current IEPs to meet the needs of any changes in service

- all related Service Providers, School Psychologists, Speech and Language Pathologists, Adapted Physical Education, and School Nurses shall provide services to the students they are assigned as outlined in each student's IEP

**Distance learning plans for each individual student will provide an explanation of how the student's IEP will be executed in that model of instruction. Because a distance learning instructional model is different than an in-person instructional model there will be obvious variations in how the IEP will be executed.**

If families are experiencing any concerns with the distance learning or hybrid model, Case Managers and SRCS Program Managers are available to support students.

### **Advanced Learner Program and Services (ALPS)**

The Teacher on Special Assignment (TOSA) for ALPS will offer a series of enrichment classes for 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> graders once per week by grade level. Students will have the opportunity to identify projects of interest as they learn about the Icons of Depth and Complexity and concept-based learning. Each session will be 8 weeks long and will involve synchronous and asynchronous teaching and learning. Each session is limited to 20 students maximum.

### **Independent Study**



Independent Study is available for grades Kindergarten through 12th grade, and is authorized by the Board of Education in Board Policy 6158 as an optional, alternative instructional strategy for eligible students whose needs may be best met through study outside of the regular classroom setting. Students in this program generally work independently and meet with a teacher once a week. Independent study offers a means of individualizing the educational plan to serve students who desire a more challenging educational experience, whose health or other personal circumstances make classroom attendance difficult, who are unable to access course(s) due to scheduling problems, and/or who need to make up credits or fill gaps in their learning.

Students who want to participate in Independent Study will work with their site administration according to a written agreement and under the general supervision of a credentialed teacher, or teachers. While independent study students follow the district-adopted curriculum and meet the district graduation requirements, independent study offers flexibility to meet individual student needs, interests, and styles of learning. The minimum number of days a student can enroll in Independent Study is 5 and the maximum is 18 days. To continue in Independent Study past 18 days, approval is needed from the administrator.

### Home and Hospital

Home and Hospital will also be under the umbrella of the Learning House. The Home and Hospital Instruction Program (California Education Code Section 48206.3) and Board Policy 6183 serves students who incur a temporary disability, which makes attendance in the regular day classes or alternative education program impossible or inadvisable. Home-hospital serves students with a temporary disability in the student’s home or in a hospital or other residential health facility, excluding state hospitals. The parent or guardian will need to notify the school of the student’s presence in a qualifying hospital or facility or if at home. With the parent or guardian, a determination will be made regarding which option for continued learning may be best for the student: individualized instruction as provided by a home/hospital teacher or independent study.

### **Actions Related to the Distance Learning Program [additional rows and actions may be added as necessary]**

Description	Total Funds	Contributing
Staff laptops/desktops	12000.00	Y
Distance Learning Instructional materials	1200.00	Y
Additional technology hardware for staff to support remote learning (e.g. monitors, cameras, tripods)	1751.00	Y

### **Pupil Learning Loss**

[A description of how the LEA will address pupil learning loss that results from COVID-19 during the 2019–2020 and 2020–21 school years, including how the LEA will assess pupils to measure learning status, particularly in the areas of English language arts, English language development, and mathematics.]



### **Elementary (KA-6)**

The District has revised the elementary assessment calendar to reflect the challenges of COVID-19 and remote learning. For the first trimester, the District has suspended the 1:1 assessments for DRA (K-2), DIBELS (3-6), and Beginning of Year Math (K-5). The District has made every effort to focus on trimesterly assessments that can be administered remotely and done independently by students (e.g., Let's Go Learn, MAP, Lucy Calkins Writing, CPM end of trimester benchmarks, etc.). Teachers are encouraged to use formative assessments that are part of the District-adopted curriculum (e.g. *Everyday Math*, *CPM*, *Wonders*, etc.) to monitor student learning, check for understanding, provide individual feedback, and differentiate instruction. With so many unknowns due to COVID-19, the 2020-21 elementary assessment calendar is subject to change and is a flexible living document.

### **State-mandated Testing**

- Grades 5 & 6 SBAC ELA and Math
- Grades 5: CA Science Test (CAST)
- Grades 5, Physical Fitness Test
- K-12: English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC) administered to qualifying students in accordance with the law

## **Pupil Learning Loss Strategies**

[A description of the actions and strategies the LEA will use to address learning loss and accelerate learning progress for pupils, as needed, including how these strategies differ for pupils who are English learners; low-income; foster youth; pupils with exceptional needs; and pupils experiencing homelessness.]

The key strategies to address learning loss include:

- address students' social and emotional wellbeing first
- use a comprehensive approach to formative assessments
- focus on assessments that already exist and are aligned with adopted instructional materials to provide stability for students and staff
- focus on essential standards (endurance, leverage, and readiness)
- target student skills individually to address rather than reteaching prior year content to the whole class
- address needs for equitable access for learning
- communicate with families clearly and frequently about student progress

The district will provide professional development and support for teachers and staff during the 2020-21 school year to address essential standards, learning loss and accelerate learning progress in a distance learning model to improve Tier 1 instruction. Professional Development will also focus on student engagement and feedback as we explore Best Practices for Distance. Teachers will engage in thinking critically about increasing student engagement in distance learning.

## Effectiveness of Implemented Pupil Learning Loss Strategies

[A description of how the effectiveness of the services or supports provided to address learning loss will be measured.]

Teachers, site administrators and district administration will review data on a regular basis (each trimester and quarter) to determine if the learning loss strategies are showing student improvement on formative assessments, benchmark assessments, surveys, and student engagement. At the elementary level, the data for many assessments is entered in our data and assessment platform, Illuminate, making it easy to monitor students' progress on multiple assessments. Teachers can also administer short online assessments in Illuminate for easy grading and monitoring.

Should the pupil learning loss strategies used not prove to be effective for a student, teachers will analyze why and attempt to use different strategies to address student learning needs. The District encourages teachers to use common planning time to discuss common assessments they may be administering in order to calibrate scoring by reviewing some student work together. This process often leads to informative discussions about effective lessons and strategies that may benefit a larger student group.

Should a student not demonstrate expected academic growth after many attempts at remedying learning loss, the teacher may want to seek advice from site colleagues and/or the site's Student Success Team by reviewing different Tiers of support strategies.

The District will provide ongoing Professional Development about formative assessments, creating performance tasks, and how to motivate and engage students in distance learning.

### Actions to Address Pupil Learning Loss [additional rows and actions may be added as necessary]

Description	Total Funds	Contributing
ELD materials to address learning loss	1500.00	Y
Sped materials to address learning loss	500.00	Y
After school tutoring	1500.00	Y

## Mental Health and Social and Emotional Well-Being

[A description of how the LEA will monitor and support mental health and social and emotional well-being of pupils and staff during the school year, including the professional development and resources that will be provided to pupils and staff to address trauma and other impacts of COVID-19 on the school community.]

Through the Multi-Tier System of Support (MTSS) structure, we support both the development of academic and social-emotional and behavioral well-being (or mental health). MTSS supports district-wide coordination of a continuum of support making sure that all students' needs are identified.

### Tier 1: Universal Supports - Whole School Safety and Prevention Plan

- SRCS has developed a system to connect with students and families to promote attendance.
- SRCS school sites will consider strategies to become a trauma-responsive school system to support the school community.
- SRCS will engage with students and families using culturally responsive techniques.
- SRCS is committed to using universal screening to identify the social-emotional needs of students.
- SRCS will use professional development time to increase trauma knowledge and skills.
- SRCS will engage staff in professional development about mental health de-stigmatization.
- SRCS will include information about mental health and wellness resources on the district and school websites and in communication with families.

### **Tier 1: Community and Family Wellness**

- SRCS will continue to collaborate with local government and private agencies to provide workshops and support services regarding adult and student mental health, trauma responsiveness, suicide prevention, and resilience.

### **Tier 1: Staff Wellness**

- SRCS acknowledges the importance of staff wellness and will work to support staff through the implementation of staff resilience, consultation, and mental health support.
- Prior to school opening, and ongoing, SRCS will provide training on secondary traumatic stress and self-care.
- SRCS District and Site Administrators will promote mindfulness techniques and staff social supports.
- SRCS Leadership is committed to open and routine communication with staff members, encouraging self-care (e.g., saying no, accepting oneself and others, not being at 100% all the time).
- SRCS will promote the use of staff support groups to enhance staff cohesion and coping.
- District Therapists and Social Workers will be available to staff for support and referral to mental health services when appropriate.

### **Tier 1: Classroom Strategies**

- SRCS will engage staff in professional development for social-emotional learning to help teachers learn tools and strategies to lower anxiety and stress exhibited by students.
- SRCS will encourage staff to establish and implement routines for both in-person and distance learning, which include welcoming inclusion activities, engagement strategies, and an optimistic closure to class.
- SRCS will encourage staff to include stress management and mindfulness practices in classroom routines.
- SRCS is participating in the Resilience in School Environments (RISE) program to assess and improve the social-emotional wellness of students and staff.
- SRCS will encourage teachers to ask their students how they are doing and refer to counseling when students are struggling.
- SRCS leadership and staff will consider the impact of stress and trauma when assessing and supporting students.

### **Tier 2 / 3: Early and Targeted Interventions for Students and Staff**

- SRCS is committed to scaling up Social Emotional Learning to promote social-emotional competencies among students and staff.
- SRCS will continue to offer staff mental health support through SOS Counseling.
- SRCS is committed to building the capacity of student mental health services.
- Social-Emotional Wellness support will be provided by the school counselors, district school-based therapists/social workers, and community-based organizations who contract with SRCS (SAY, Lifeworks, and Humanidad).
- Mental health staff will provide services either in-person or through a telehealth platform.
- Mental health resources will be consistent across the district and district-wide mental health providers should be coordinating services. (School Psychologists, School Counselors, School-Based Clinicians, and School-Based Therapists)

# Pupil and Family Engagement and Outreach

[A description of pupil engagement and outreach, including the procedures for tiered reengagement strategies for pupils who are absent from distance learning and how the LEA will provide outreach to pupils and their parents or guardians, including in languages other than English, when pupils are not meeting compulsory education requirements, or if the LEA determines the pupil is not engaging in instruction and is at risk of learning loss.]

## Attendance Plan

- In accordance with AB 98, attendance will be taken daily for each student. Absences will be recorded by the teacher of record in the Student Information System (SIS) each day as required by AB 98 and any other state or federal mandates.
- For attendance-taking purposes, teachers mark students present or absent during in-person learning. Attendance for Distance Learning is met through the following synchronous and asynchronous learning and codes have been created to identify the engagement:
- evidence of participation in online activities
  - completion of regular assignments
  - completion of assessments
  - or contacts between any SRCS staff member and a student or their parent or guardian through phone, emails, or any type of communication

A pupil who does not participate in a portion of distance learning on a school day shall be documented as absent for that school day.

Students who are absent from distance learning for more than three school days or 60 percent of the instructional days in a school week, shall be subject to a tiered re-engagement process. Weekly lists are provided to each site by the district’s SAFE Office to begin the re-engagement process and data is analyzed to discover patterns of absences, comparisons among the schools as well as within days of the week, and or differences among classrooms and grades.

## **Re Engagement Process**

### **Tier 1**

- The automated messaging system will make daily phone calls for each day a student is marked absent by the teacher.
- Teachers or other SRCS employees will attempt to make contact with the student and parent.
- Attendance information will be available for parents through the Student Information Portal of the SIS.
- Teachers will create, publish, and inform students and parents of their grading practices in a hybrid or distance learning model.
- Assure assignments and grades are uploaded weekly.
- All contacts are documented in the Student Comments of the SIS

### **Tier 2**

- Students that are deemed 60% absent from the hybrid model or distance learning will be reported to the school site attendanceTeam that includes the attendance technician and administrator.
- School site may also choose to do a family home visit to better understand the issues concerning school engagement.
- As part of the re-engagement strategy, the school site attendance team will attempt to reach out and determine the cause for the absence. The Team will ensure that communication with the parent is working, phone dialer, emails, and internet access; determine if there is a breakdown in communication and make any corrections; and determine if the lack of participation is due to a lack of access and the site will take the necessary steps to ensure the issue is resolved.
- The parents will be informed that continued absences from distance learning could include: a conference with an administrator; development of an Attendance Plan through an Student Study Team (SST) process; through the SST process, other forms of support will also be discussed such as additional time needed, emotional or mental health supports, and potential greater academic supports and interventions; and discussion of the intervention of the student being removed from Distance Learning.

### **Tier 3**

- If the re-engagement strategies in Tiers 1 & 2 fail to improve distance learning attendance then a follow-up SST will be held,
- The school administrator may develop an Attendance Plan that includes: teacher engagement; both reward and consequences for further attendance,
- Review of the family circumstance for outside connection with health and social service;
- Meeting with District SAFE staff; and

-Make a recommendation to transitioning the student to full in-person learning.

## School Nutrition

[A description of how the LEA will provide nutritionally adequate meals for all pupils, including those students who are eligible for free or reduced-price meals, when pupils are participating in both in-person instruction and distance learning, as applicable.]

SRCS will offer breakfast and lunch meals to all students each school day. Non-Congregate Grab and Go meals breakfast and lunch meals will be offered each school day the student is not scheduled to be on campus. As of 9/8/2020 40.16% of students qualify for free or reduced-price meals.

## Additional Actions to Implement the Learning Continuity Plan [additional rows and actions may be added as necessary]

Section	Description	Total Funds	Contributing
Distance Learning Professional Development	Professional development on meeting the needs of advanced learners.	[\$ 5000.00]	Y
Pupil Learning Loss	Art Supplies for art students to utilize at home during distance learning	[\$ 1000.00]	Y

## Increased or Improved Services for Foster Youth, English Learners, and Low-Income Students

Percentage to Increase or Improve Services	Increased Apportionment Based on the Enrollment of Foster Youth, English Learners, and Low-Income students
10.1%	35,451

## Required Descriptions

[For the actions being provided to an entire school, or across the entire school district or county office of education (COE), an explanation of (1) how the needs of foster youth, English learners, and low-income students were considered first, and (2) how these actions are effective in meeting the needs of these students.]

The needs of foster youth and McKinney-Vento youth were considered first when they were included in the SRCS plan to provide “support care for vulnerable populations,” which addressed the needs of Special Education Students and English Learners. The needs of homeless students were further considered when Student and Family Engagement staff was assigned to make contact with them and verify their housing status before the first week of school. The staff member reached out to each family and discussed the “support care” programs at Biella, Monroe, the Finley Center and at Salvation Army. Additionally, students were surveyed about their needs for accessing distance learning (Chromebooks and hotspots) and enrollment assistance was offered. Foster and homeless youth were also given priority status for district child care programs when they reopen. Making early personal contact with homeless families is especially effective for those students since they relocate frequently and often need assistance at the start of the school year.

[A description of how services for foster youth, English learners, and low-income students are being increased or improved by the percentage required.]

At-risk, or vulnerable students, have a prioritization when it comes to on-site childcare, as funded through the district. This childcare offers increased services in the areas of supporting the whole child during distance learning (through nutritious snacks and Social Emotional Learning activities) and providing supplemental support to vulnerable students. Additionally, students identified in these subgroups have been prioritized for access to internet hot-spots and device distribution.



# Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan Template (2020–21)

The instructions for completing the Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan is available at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/re/lc/documents/lrngcntntyatndncpln-instructions.docx>.

Local Educational Agency (LEA) Name	Contact Name and Title	Email and Phone
Cesar Chavez Language Academy (KA-7th Grade)	Rebekah Rocha, Principal	<a href="mailto:rrocha@srcs.k12.ca.us">rrocha@srcs.k12.ca.us</a> 707-890-3890
Santa Rosa City Schools	Dr. Diann Kitamura Superintendent	<a href="mailto:dkitamura@srcs.k12.ca.us">dkitamura@srcs.k12.ca.us</a> 707-890-3800 x80101

## General Information

[A description of the impact the COVID-19 pandemic has had on the LEA and its community.]

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and under the guidance of the Sonoma County Health Department, the Sonoma County Office of Education, and the Office of the California Governor Gavin Newsom, Santa Rosa City Schools (SRCS), including the dependent charter school, Cesar Chavez Language Academy, suspended in-person instruction and transitioned to distance learning on March 26, 2020. From that date through the end of the 2019-20 academic year, all instruction was delivered through a distance learning model where students participated in learning activities at home, with teachers delivering instruction through mostly digital platforms. The District & school distributed Chromebooks to students so that they could participate in distance learning and placed hotspots in areas where internet connectivity was insufficient to support online learning.

With an understanding that distance learning presented challenges to families and that students received differing levels of support at home, the District & school adjusted the grade reporting practices for the last grading period of the year. Before the school year ended, the District conducted a survey of all families and staff to understand better their situations and preferences for 2020-21 teaching and learning. On June 3, 2020, the District held a Special Board Meeting video conference to solicit further input from families and staff. In May, the District began to convene an Executive Committee and several subcommittees to begin to make recommendations for the development of the 2020-21 Return to School Plan. The Executive Committee and subcommittees worked throughout the summer to develop a plan while continuing to seek updated feedback from our constituents through surveys and Zoom meetings.



Due to the suspension of in-person learning, the regular rhythm and progression of student learning was interrupted across all grade levels and content areas. There were no universal screeners in place to monitor student progress remotely. Distance learning did not replicate the traditional classroom learning experience, despite our educators' best efforts during a sudden transition. The District recognized the challenges for parents and guardians who were helping their children with distance learning while also managing their own work responsibilities. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many SRCS families experienced stress due to lost income or lost jobs and, in some cases, were displaced from their housing. Many families also experienced food insecurity and benefited from the District's "grab and go" meal program. The shift to distance learning amid shelter-at-home guidance also impacted students' social wellbeing, emotional wellness, and physical health. Despite the diligent efforts of school staff to maintain student-school connections, the social isolation at home and lack of in-class interactions were hard for students and families. Families also expressed concerns about increased screen time for their children and how it might affect their stress levels and physical wellbeing.

Santa Rosa City Schools had planned to begin the 2020-21 school year with a hybrid learning model and two distance learning choices for families. However, the District recognized the need for flexibility and the ability to pivot based on guidance from the County Health Office. When Sonoma County was returned to the state's COVID-19 watchlist per the Governor's orders and public health guidance, the SRCS Board of Education resolved on July 22, 2020 to launch the new school year fully remotely, with a return to in-person learning when public health guidelines allow. Since making this decision, SRCS has continued to seek input from the community and respond to their concerns through public feedback at Board meetings and scheduled Q&A forums for family and staff.

## Stakeholder Engagement

[A description of the efforts made to solicit stakeholder feedback.]

Stakeholder engagement has been and continues to be integral to our planning and development as we navigate the impact of COVID-19 on our students, families, and staff. SRCS is fortunate to have an engaged community that has provided input and asked questions since we transitioned to distance learning on March 26, 2020. We used this input to create a Return to School Plan that is grounded in public health and science, educational best practices, and wellness practices that promote the mental and physical health of our community.

Prior to the close of the 2019-20 school year, the District surveyed our families and staff to gather data on people's situations, distance learning, and return-to-school models, with over 2,400 responses. The June 3rd Special Board Meeting video conference to seek further input from families and staff was attended by over 450 people. In May, the District convened an Executive Committee and several subcommittees to begin the process for developing the 2020-21 Return to School Plan.

The Executive Committee included representatives from the Santa Rosa Teachers Association (SRTA) and Santa Rosa Classified Chapter 75 (CSEA), school site administrators, and district office administrators. The subcommittee members, totaling 220 people, included students, parents, classified staff, certificated staff, and administrative staff. The subcommittees addressed six different topics: Health and Safety; Distance Learning for Health Compromised; Childcare; Elementary Instruction (KA-6); Middle School Instruction (7-8); and High School Instruction (9-12).

Each subcommittee established protocols, procedures, and meeting schedules to discuss, research, and prepare recommendations to present to the Executive Committee for inclusion in the final version of the plan. To further assist with this process, SRTA convened weekly Zoom focus groups (130 participating members) to help inform this work. Additionally, both SRCS and SRTA surveyed stakeholders to garner more input and guidance on the development of the plan.

On June 24, 2020, a Return to School Executive Committee Working Group was convened to create the draft version of the Return to School plan, which was further developed by the Executive Committee, the Executive Cabinet, and through negotiations with SRCS Classified Chapter 75 classified staff and SRTA certificated staff.

As SRCS prepared to return to school remotely, the District continued to seek staff and community input--as well as address questions—through public hearings at Board meetings and through Q&A Webinars. The Board meetings were held on: July 8<sup>th</sup>, July 22<sup>nd</sup>, Aug. 12<sup>th</sup>, and Aug. 26<sup>th</sup>.

The District held Q&A Webinars in separate sessions for staff and the community on July 30<sup>th</sup> and August 6<sup>th</sup>. The first staff session, held via Zoom, was attended by over 500 of our employees, with 300 participating in the second session. The community sessions were broadcast live via Zoom and Facebook, with separate sessions available to English and Spanish speakers. Community members participated in each session. To facilitate discussion, attendees were encouraged to submit their questions in advance to a designated email address.

In addition to these efforts to communicate with staff and families, SRCS has also created a Return to School page on our website with English and Spanish resources to address FAQs, to explain different learning models, to provide updated meal information, and to provide guidance for different wellness options for family and staff.

The District values continued input from our community and will work to review and integrate additional feedback into our planning as we move forward in an extremely dynamic situation that requires our collective best thinking and practices.

At Cesar Chavez Language Academy, two “Town Hall” meetings were held with parents prior to the start of school. One addressed the general outline of the virtual school day school day would look like, and given the opportunity to ask questions. A separate meeting was held to help parents in our school formulate community “pods”, where parents could choose to get together off campus to stay engaged with each other. On August 16th, we held a Zoom training for all interested parents, to make sure they understood how to log their children into class on the first day of school.

#### [A description of the options provided for remote participation in public meetings and public hearings.]

Board meetings were open to the public via Facebook and then Zoom due to the shelter-at-home order. The meetings were open and accessible for all via remote participation. Public hearings are held at our regularly scheduled and agendized Board meetings. The Friday before each Board meeting, the agenda is posted at the District Office and on the District website. Anyone wishing to speak on an item related to remote learning was given notice in these postings, with bilingual directions on how the process works.

Parents were notified about the July 30<sup>th</sup> and August 6<sup>th</sup> Q&A Webinars by District email and the ParentSquare communication application . Parents had the opportunity to participate in English and Spanish sessions via Facebook or Zoom.

[A summary of the feedback provided by specific stakeholder groups.]

In May 2020, the school sent out a Distance Learning survey to all CCLA families, to get feedback on how their experience had been from March through May. 146 families responded. 88% of the families said that their child did not have any technology issues at home. 85% of the respondents said that the workload was “just the right amount”. 35% of parents said that their children were unmotivated. 84% said that there had been continuous communication with their child’s teacher.

In May 2020, families and staff (certificated and classified) responded to end-of-year surveys regarding their intentions for 2020-21 and their feelings about how teaching and learning would proceed during the continued pandemic. Over 1,800 families and over 600 staff members responded, with 72% percent of staff respondents identifying their position as certificated. The Santa Rosa Teachers Association (SRTA) also conducted a survey of its members, with 548 responding.

### **Strong Desire to Return to School/Workplace and Engage in Different Instructional Models**

In the survey of families, ninety-nine percent of respondents stated their child or children were returning to a SRCS school. For SRTA members, there was also a strong desire to return to school with safety precautions.

All constituents recognized that a return to school would probably look different than pre-COVID-19 due to restrictions on how schools would be allowed to operate. When asked about what learning models they would prefer, families said they preferred Socially-distanced In-person Learning (47%) or Hybrid Learning (46%). Santa Rosa City Schools staff, both classified and certificated, stated a preference for the Hybrid Model (45%), with 27% supporting the Socially-distanced In-person model. The least popular choice for families was fully remote learning (14%), while 28% of SRCS staff supported that model.

When asked how comfortable stakeholders would be in sending their children back to school or returning to the school/workplace, most families responded that they were comfortable or very comfortable (58%), with 32% stating they would be uncomfortable or very uncomfortable. The responses for SRCS staff showed that 40% of respondents felt comfortable or very comfortable returning to schools/workplaces, 31% were hesitant, and 30% stated they would feel uncomfortable or very uncomfortable.

When asked what concerned them about continued distance learning, teachers stated through the SRTA survey that they were either concerned or very concerned about the following topics:

- 63% Insufficient instructional time with all students to address all academic standards
- 66% Managing curriculum for the hybrid model (online and in-person learning)
- 61% Assessments and 1:1 testing

With regard to technology priorities that directly impact the ability to deliver remote learning, 92% of teachers responding cited a need for software licenses for programs, and new and better applications for distance learning. Ninety-three percent of respondents also stated a need for more technology support in order to teach remotely. Teachers cited these priorities technology priorities for students: 1:1 technology that allows students to participate fully in remote learning (92%); fully-established email accounts so student-teacher connection can begin immediately (85%), and adequate technology support (93%).

In the event that SRCS would not be able to return to full-time in-person learning, stakeholders were asked about their childcare solutions. Nearly fifty-two percent of respondents stated their child or children were old enough to supervise themselves. Thirty-six percent expressed that their child or children would be supervised by an immediate family member living in their home or by a family member or friend who lives close. Almost fourteen percent of family responses showed a need for fee-based childcare, with 10% stating they would need SRCS to provide fee-based childcare.

Classified and certificated staff responses stated that 12% would have childcare supervised by an immediate family member living in their home or by a family member or friend who lives close, with 16% stating a need for fee-based childcare. Seven percent expressed a need for SRCS fee-based childcare. Seventy-two percent of respondents said this question did not apply to them. This correlates to results from the SRTA survey where 68% of responding members shared they did not have childcare needs.

## **Safety**

For all stakeholders responding to SRCS surveys, safety was paramount to any return to school, whether it be full-time in-person learning or a hybrid model. All family responses were predicated on the basis that SRCS would adhere to all COVID-19 safety guidelines to keep children safe, as stated in the survey questions being asked.

Details from the SRTA survey reveal that 55% of members identify themselves as being in a high-risk category (underlying health condition, age, or caring for elderly). Among the certificated staff responding to the survey, 67% would like to come back to school with safety precautions. Sixty-nine percent of SRTA responses indicated an overwhelming demand for safety. Teachers recognized that many safety measures would be required to be safe at school under public health guidelines. Fifty-two percent of SRTA respondents called for identification and implementation of site teams to support COVID-19 health and safety protocols. Members stated that they are flexible about different learning models, as long as safety concerns are fully addressed:

53% Online learning only

55% Most online learning with in-person support for certain students

70% Hybrid model

41% In-person learning only

## **Supporting Students Socially, Emotionally, and Academically**

Through public forums such as Q&A Webinars and Board meetings, families consistently expressed concerns about their children's social and academic progress due to the March 26, 2020 suspension of in-person learning. As many families experienced economic loss, job loss,

and food insecurity due to the pandemic, additional stress has been placed on all family members. During the spring distance learning, many students also mourned the loss of in-person learning and the social and emotional fulfillment it brings through daily peer interactions, with many struggling with the new-found isolation under shelter-at-home orders. All of this was no doubt compounded by Sonoma County's recent fires and our ongoing recovery from this trauma.

The SRTA survey results showed that teachers have great concern for students as they return to school, recognizing that they will need a lot of academic and social and emotional support. Thirty-four percent of teachers responding desired expanded Tier 2 program support for larger quantities of qualifying students, while 44% of responses indicated a need for additional health and human services professionals. Nearly half of those responding to the SRTA survey (49%), suggested training for families to increase empowerment on health and safety protocols and procedures.

Through public forums such as Q&A Webinars and Board meetings, families expressed concerns about their children's learning progress and possible learning loss due to the suspension of in-person during the spring. With the abrupt shift to distance learning, many felt underprepared to support their children's remote learning and some children had difficulty adjusting to distance learning.

The SRTA survey results indicated that the majority of those responding were concerned about student engagement (75%) and student accountability (71%). Additionally, these survey results identified several areas of interest for student learning when students returned to school in person or online:

60% Academic counseling, support, and intervention classes for students needing academic assistance

46% Modifications to ease transition back to in-person learning

76% Technology and curriculum support for newly introduced or mandated learning platforms

66% Elimination of all non-mandated high stakes testing to minimize encroachment into active instructional time

74% Plan for following up with non-engaged students

### **Professional Development and Collaboration**

In the year-end SRCS survey, teachers were asked to rate their ability to use certain technology tools. The majority of responding teachers felt comfortable or very comfortable using video conferencing tools (75%), Google Classroom (68%), and Google Applications (62%). In contrast, they stated that they needed support or would like some support with Seesaw (76%), screencasting tools (63%), and Illuminate Online Assessments (62%).

In the SRTA survey, teachers agreed or strongly agreed they had a need for two types of professional development: "one and done" (43%) and ongoing sessions (52%). In addition to professional development, teachers overwhelmingly stated a desire for collaboration with peers at the site-level (75%) and with job-alike colleagues in the District (59%). Teachers also expressed a desire to provide instruction more collaboratively through team models, with 36% of respondents wanting to building partnerships and 48% wanting to build a team. Directly related to this desire for collaboration and team models, teachers suggested that this might be the time to begin to explore and implement

more Project-based Learning (PBL) as we analyze successful student engagement models of instruction (57% responded maybe and 18% affirmatively).

Teachers were also asked to identify their 2020-21 professional development priorities, with the following topics among those deemed important or very important:

79% Best practices for online teaching

77% Supporting equal access to learning for all students

74% Motivating students to participate in distance learning

88% Time to prepare for distance learning through collaboration with colleagues

85% Delivering efficient and effective instruction through the hybrid model

71% Expectations for Special Education case managers

In analyzing the stakeholder data, Santa Rosa City Schools identified six dominant themes that informed the development of the Return to School Plan and The Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan: Connection; Instruction; Safety; Technology; Communication; and Professional Development.

[A description of the aspects of the Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan that were influenced by specific stakeholder hi er input.]

All aspects of this plan were directly influenced and made better by participating stakeholders as we established priorities that aligned with each of the six themes identified through the analysis of survey and meeting feedback:

### **Connection**

-Social-emotional wellness

-Connection to community partnership

-Relationship-building

-Back-to-school transitions

### **Instruction**

-Clear expectations

-Essential standards

-Flexible instructional strategies

-Assessment to guide instruction

-Access to support and intervention

### **Safety**

- Adherence to County Health guidelines
- Create safety protocols and systems
- COVID-19 training for students, parents, and staff
- Point-person for COVID-related topics

### **Technology**

- Technology access for all students
- Technology support for students and families
- Consistency with platforms and apps

### **Communication**

- Frequent, timely, and centralized communication
- Consistency
- Use of one platform by staff and teacher to communicate with students and parents

### **Professional Development**

- Need for learning, planning, and collaborating
- Collaboration time to design curriculum together (horizontally, vertically, and district-wide)
- In-person training for families

The wide range of input and requests from stakeholders also inspired the return-to-school working committee to identify these overarching principles that guided the decision-making process for this plan.

- Safeguard the health and safety of students and staff
- Comply with State, County Health Department, and Centers for Disease Control guidelines
- Consider feedback from diverse and multiple sources
- Ensure equitable access to teaching and learning (prioritize most vulnerable students, individualized student check-ins, consistent online experiences)
- Leverage resources to address achievement and opportunity gaps
- Adhere to established learning plans while remaining flexible
- Use an inclusive and fair decision-making process to revise established plans
- Leverage community resources to enhance planning
- Foster student learning and progress
- Reduce negative or unintended consequences



# Continuity of Learning

## In-Person Instructional Offerings

[A description of the actions the LEA will take to offer classroom-based instruction whenever possible, particularly for students who have experienced significant learning loss due to school closures in the 2019–2020 school year or are at a greater risk of experiencing learning loss due to future school closures.]

Given the uncertainty of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, in-person instruction may not be immediately allowable under state and local health orders. However, SRCS has recognized the need to be prepared to offer in-person instruction when possible. The State provided a waiver process to allow for in-person instruction for students in need

SRCS had planned to begin the 2020-21 school year by offering three learning model options to students and families, with the understanding that the dynamic COVID-19 situation may make it necessary to pivot:

### 1. Hybrid Model (2 days at school, 3 days at home)

- Students assigned to one of the two cohorts (A or B) attending school either Monday and Tuesday **OR** Thursday and Friday.
- On the three days, they would not be in school, they would learn from home (or child care).
- On Wednesdays, all students would have a virtual check-in with their teacher or other support staff and the schools would be cleaned between cohorts.
- Teachers would be focusing on the essential standards of the California Standards and assessing students regularly to determine if any academic intervention is needed.
- Keep family members in the same cohort so they would be attending school on the same days.

### 2. Distance Learning Model (5 days at home)

- All teaching would be done virtually (on a computer/Chromebook) and class assignments would be provided via a district-wide common online platform.
- Students would have virtual classes with their teachers every day except for Wednesdays when they would have a virtual check-in with their teacher or other support staff.

### 3. Learning House Model (5 days at home)

- Would create a community of more than 100 learners from multiple school sites.
- Students would work with a small group of educators and build an online community.
- Students would build on their own strengths with real-world projects and integration of core subjects and electives.
- Intervention and enrichment would be embedded into students' process of learning.



When Sonoma County was returned to the state’s COVID-19 watchlist per the Governor’s orders and public health guidance, the SRCS Board of Education resolved on July 22, 2020 to launch the new school year fully remotely, following guidelines for Distance Learning Model #2 where students engage in remote learning 5 days per week.

When the District is given Public Health clearance to resume in-person learning, we will follow public health guidance.

**District Actions Related to In-Person Instructional Offerings [additional rows and actions may be added as necessary]**

Description	Total Funds	Contributing
COVID-19 Coordinator	\$170,582	Y
COVID-19 Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)	\$1,382,853	N
Professional Cleaning and Sanitizing of SRCS facilities	\$1,000,000	N
Air Filters and Purifiers	\$500,000	N
Professional Development	\$550,000	Y
Return to School Committee	\$50,000	Y
COVID safety training for staff, student, parents, and community	\$125,000	Y
Outdoor Learning Spaces	\$250,000	Y
Air Ventilation and Circulation	\$700,000	N
Modified Classroom Layouts/signage	\$50,000	Y

**Distance Learning Program**

**Continuity of Instruction**

[A description of how the LEA will provide continuity of instruction during the school year to ensure pupils have access to a full curriculum of substantially similar quality regardless of the method of delivery, including the LEA’s plan for curriculum and instructional resources that will ensure instructional continuity for pupils if a transition between in-person instruction and distance learning is necessary.]

In its work to prepare for the return to school, the District—through the work of the Return to School committees and subcommittees—identified and discussed models of instruction that would be most effective and flexible in the face of challenges due to COVID-19. Ultimately, three models emerged from the committees and negotiations: Hybrid, Distance Learning, and Learning House. All three would accommodate the social distancing requirements of Sonoma County Health Orders, California Department of Education Guidelines, and the Sonoma County Road Map to Safe Reopening.

The Distance Learning Model is one of the 3 back-to-school models offered to families. It is also the model the District will use when there are school closures and students and staff cannot be at sites, when all instruction will be remote.

Distance Learning is designed to provide a traditional education similar to in-person learning. The difference is all teaching will be done virtually and course work will be provided via Google Classroom and Seesaw. Students will be taught virtually every day except for Wednesdays when they will have a virtual check-in.

Distance Learning includes the following:

- Students meet with a group of classmates and teachers from their current school
- Middle and high school students have classes with teachers from different subject areas, just as they would in traditional school
- Access to content and assignments via Seesaw (grades KA-3) and Google Classroom (grades 4-12) platforms
- Students will attend online school every day except Wednesday, when teachers are in professional development and have collaborative planning time. On that day, students will check-in with teachers but will not have online instruction
- Students enrolled in specialized programs (such as ArtQuest, IB, SPARQ, University Center, Early College Magnet) will be able to continue in those programs through Distance Learning
- Students enrolled in charter schools (CCLA, SRFACS, SRCSA, SRACS) will be able to continue in those schools through Distance Learning
- All learners are served, including Special Education, English Language Learners
- Intervention and enrichment opportunities will be provided
- Electives will be offered

At the charter school site (Cesar Chavez Language Academy), the Principal worked closely with other Principals from Dual Immersion schools in Sonoma & Napa counties, forming a consortium. Together, they brainstormed best practices for Distance Learning. After those were delineated, the Principal met with the CCLA Leadership Team (a group of 6 other teachers), to align the best practices for Dual Immersion with the SRCS RTS Plan & MOU. In addition, a letter was sent out to all families in early August to communicate the plan as well as try and put some parents at ease in terms of their concerns with Distance Learning in a Dual Immersion setting.

## Access to Devices and Connectivity

[A description of how the LEA will ensure access to devices and connectivity for all pupils to support distance learning.]

Santa Rosa City Schools will work to ensure equitable access to education for all students by providing adequate access to connectivity and technological devices to participate in the educational program and to complete assigned work. We will ensure that all students have access to devices and Wi-Fi.

The District recognized that many of the existing student Chromebooks were reaching obsolescence and developed a plan for cyclical replacement of Chromebooks. New devices will be deployed by the second week of August, 2020.. All students will be offered a device. Families that choose not to use a school device will need to explicitly state that their child has a device.

Families will receive information from their site principal. Teachers who expressed need will also be provided new laptops to ensure connectivity and support for students through distance learning. All staff will have access to their classrooms and school sites to ensure resources and connectivity as needed.

In addition, at Cesar Chavez Language Academy, ipads were ordered for all TK-1st grade students during the Spring of 2020, to ensure success with the SeeSaw app. While we are still waiting for these to be ready for deployment, once they are, we will get them into the hands of students.

## **Pupil Participation and Progress**

[A description of how the LEA will assess pupil progress through live contacts and synchronous instructional minutes, and a description of how the LEA will measure participation and time value of pupil work.]

Attendance: The student is expected to check the teacher's distance learning platform (e.g., Google Classroom, Seesaw) and District Gmail and complete assignments. Students will have opportunities to check in with the teacher during specified times.

There are multiple ways to assess student progress and understanding of grade and subject level content. These may include content exams, projects, presentations, and performance tasks, among other things. Performance tasks may be described as multi-step academic exercises that allow students to demonstrate knowledge and content application, synthesis, creativity, etc., with content knowledge in a real and/or imagined context. Performance tasks are often accompanied by rubrics that allow for levels of performance and subtle differences in assessment feedback to students.

In hybrid, distance learning, and the Learning House, certain types of assessments such as performance tasks may be used more than others. Assessments may serve both formative and summative purposes, providing teachers the necessary information to make instructional decisions and supporting students in receiving feedback to adjust the demonstration of learning.

## **Distance Learning Professional Development**

[A description of the professional development and resources that will be provided to staff to support the distance learning program, including technological support.]

Santa Rosa City Schools is committed to supporting the professional growth of its staff, both certificated and classified. In response to the County's shelter-at-home order, a menu of professional development classes was offered virtually on Monday, April 13, 2020, focused on tools and strategies to support a distance learning model of instruction.

As we planned for return to school in August, the District recognized the need for additional, ongoing training and collaboration focused on highly effective tools, skills, and strategies for meeting the diverse needs of our students. To ensure equitable learning and social and emotional outcomes for all students during this new way of teaching and learning, as well as the expectation of AB 98, all staff are expected to attend professional development.

Considering District and SRTA survey data, as well as input from the various stakeholder committees, the following professional development topics and formats have been considered. This list is not exhaustive but rather reflects current needs and wants expressed by staff in light of these new models of instruction, hybrid and distance learning.

**Instruction:** Essential standards; content specific; best practices for distance learning; strategies to motivate students in a distance learning environment; use of Newsela and Learning A-Z to support differentiation; effective lesson design for distance learning; Culturally, Responsively, Sustaining and Humanizing Education (CRSH); strategies for engagement in district curriculum in a hybrid/distance learning format (e.g., *Everyday Math*, *Wonders*, etc.); flipped classroom; Project Based Learning; formative assessment; diagnostic tools such as MAP, Inspect and Let's Go Learn.

**Technology:** Google Classroom and Google Apps; screencasting tools; Zoom; Seesaw; Class Dojo; ParentSquare; creating engaging videos for online teaching and learning; class webpage development; Acellus; and other applications to enhance distance learning

**Social Emotional Wellness and Mental Health:** Trauma-informed care; self-care; psychological First Aid; class meetings; classroom community building; restorative practices; managing social media consumption; safety protocols and precautions; Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports (PBIS); addressing current events through grade level appropriate conversations; encouraging and supporting student voice and advocacy.

**Distance Learning Plans:** Distance learning plans for each individual student will provide an explanation of how the student's IEP will be executed in that model of instruction. Because a distance learning instructional model is different than an in-person instructional model there will be obvious variations in how the IEP will be executed.

**Site Based Professional Development:** In addition, at Cesar Chavez Language Academy, teachers were provided the opportunity to participate in Professional Development before their contractual year started. 10 teachers participated in the GLAD Distance Learning two day institute, and 8 teachers participated in the Sonoma County Office of Education virtual training. Other teachers did PD on their own.

**Site Based Collaboration Time:** In late July, the CCLA Leadership team agreed that it would be optional for classroom teachers to participate in optional collaboration time in order to align the Dual Immersion schedule for their grade level with the MOU. All teachers opted to participate and were paid for 8 hours of collaboration time. This allowed them to come up with a schedule to be presented to parents before the start of school.

## Staff Roles and Responsibilities

[A description of the new roles and responsibilities of affected staff as a result of COVID-19.]

In response to the COVID-19 crisis and as identified in the Return to School Plan, the District has created a new position, COVID Coordinator. This role's primary purpose is to coordinate COVID-19 related clear, consistent, and aligned information, processes, and protocols to staff district-wide. The COVID Coordinator will work closely with Business Services, Teaching and Learning, Student and Family Services, and Human Resources, as well as staff to provide resources and support to navigate information regarding COVID 19.

[CSEA 75 20-21 #3 MOU COVID-19 RTS](#)

[SRTA 20-21 #1 MOU COVID-19 RTS](#)

## **Supports for Pupils with Unique Needs**

[A description of the additional supports the LEA will provide during distance learning to assist pupils with unique needs, including English learners, pupils with exceptional needs served across the full continuum of placements, pupils in foster care, and pupils who are experiencing homelessness.]

### **English Learners**

All English learners will be provided with a minimum of 30 minutes a day of Designated ELD instruction by a certificated staff member. This Designated ELD instruction shall be targeted at EL proficiency levels with groupings of not more than two proficiency levels, aligned to the 2012 California English Language Development Standards, focused on communicative purposes, not discrete grammar instruction, address the speaking, listening, reading and writing domains and include systematic development of academic vocabulary.

For Distance Learning, the following guidelines are in place to ensure that EL students are served through remote teaching and learning:

Synchronous Designated ELD: live virtual lessons/meetings; phone calls; small group lessons; by proficiency levels with scaffolds; in mixed level groups for fluency building; teacher feedback and support as needed

Asynchronous Designated ELD: previously recorded lessons and videos; phone and text messages; ELD assignments/projects using approved ELD curriculum; paper and pencil activities; reading logs and journals; goal setting and reflection

### **Foster and Homeless Youth**

SRCS is committed to supporting the foster and homeless youth in the district in collaboration with the Sonoma County Office of Education. The District recognizes that additional challenges may occur for this population during the COVID-19 pandemic and is committed to providing the necessary support for their physical, emotional and academic health. This support takes the form of collaboration with students and families, school and district staff, and other county agencies in order to remove barriers to educational access and expand educational opportunities. Students identified as foster youth are supported by the Supporting Our Language Learners (SOLL) counselors in addition to a comprehensive school counselor.

By removing barriers that occur due to frequent changes in home placement, SRCS helps to ensure that foster and homeless youth can benefit from uninterrupted educational access. AB 175 (Foster Youth Bill of Rights) provides protections for this vulnerable population of students. School districts are also responsible for ensuring that youth who are experiencing homelessness have full access to educational programs in accordance with the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

All Sonoma County students have the right to enroll in and attend school, even when housing becomes uncertain. If a child lacks “fixed, regular, and adequate housing,” federal and state laws require immediate school enrollment for that child – even without proof of residency or medical, school, or legal guardianship records.

McKinney-Vento and Foster Youth students have priority access to the district provided Chromebooks and hotspots during Distance Learning. Additionally, SRCS students housed in the Catholic Charities Family Shelter in Santa Rosa were also provided with headphones. SRCS Child Nutrition Services is also supporting students housed in the Catholic Charities Family Shelter by delivering meals.

### **Special Education**

To every extent possible, students with exceptional needs shall have the elements in their Individualized Education Program (IEP) met. This could include both in-person and distance learning settings. Students’ Case Managers will be required to meet with families to determine which, if any, services need to be adjusted.

During this time, regardless of the model, all elements of the Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) must be met. Service providers such as Speech and Language or Counseling services must continue to provide services, either through online services or in-person as developed in the IEP.

However, distance learning is not accessible to many students with exceptional needs. Many populations cannot have their developmental, educational, health and other needs met in an online environment.

Students with mild to moderate disabilities may benefit from hybrid models that include some time in-person and some time in the distance learning model depending on their age. These decisions will be made in consultation with the IEP Team. The IEP is the roadmap for each student with a disability, and in these challenging and evolving times including COVID-19 restrictions, it is critical that the IEP team meets and works with the family to jointly determine what is working for each student in distance learning and a hybrid environment as well as what accommodations and modality of learning allows the greatest access.

To support the student’s access to the general education classroom within the hybrid and distance learning learning models, and and to meet the required elements of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), SRCS will:

- provide services in the IEP in the least restrictive setting
- meet current service obligations of all IEPs, or modify current IEPs to meet the needs of any changes in service
- all related Service Providers, School Psychologists, Speech and Language Pathologists, Adapted Physical Education, and School Nurses shall provide services to the students they are assigned as outlined in each student’s IEP

**Distance learning plans for each individual student will provide an explanation of how the student's IEP will be executed in that model of instruction. Because a distance learning instructional model is different than an in-person instructional model there will be obvious variations in how the IEP will be executed.**

If families are experiencing any concerns with the distance learning or hybrid model, Case Managers and SRCS Program Managers are available to support students.

### **Advanced Learner Program and Services (ALPS)**

The Teacher on Special Assignment (TOSA) for ALPS will offer a series of enrichment classes for 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> graders once per week by grade level. Students will have the opportunity to identify projects of interest as they learn about the Icons of Depth and Complexity and concept-based learning. Each session will be 8 weeks long and will involve synchronous and asynchronous teaching and learning. Each session is limited to 20 students maximum.

### **Independent Study**

Independent Study is available for grades Kindergarten through 12th grade, and is authorized by the Board of Education in Board Policy 6158 as an optional, alternative instructional strategy for eligible students whose needs may be best met through study outside of the regular classroom setting. Students in this program generally work independently and meet with a teacher once a week. Independent study offers a means of individualizing the educational plan to serve students who desire a more challenging educational experience, whose health or other personal circumstances make classroom attendance difficult, who are unable to access course(s) due to scheduling problems, and/or who need to make up credits or fill gaps in their learning.

Students who want to participate in Independent Study will work with their site administration according to a written agreement and under the general supervision of a credentialed teacher, or teachers. While independent study students follow the district-adopted curriculum and meet the district graduation requirements, independent study offers flexibility to meet individual student needs, interests, and styles of learning. The minimum number of days a student can enroll in Independent Study is 5 and the maximum is 18 days. To continue in Independent Study past 18 days, approval is needed from the administrator.

### **Home and Hospital**

Home and Hospital will also be under the umbrella of the Learning House. The Home and Hospital Instruction Program (California Education Code Section 48206.3) and Board Policy 6183 serves students who incur a temporary disability, which makes attendance in the regular day classes or alternative education program impossible or inadvisable. Home-hospital serves students with a temporary disability in the student's home or in a hospital or other residential health facility, excluding state hospitals. The parent or guardian will need to notify the school of the student's presence in a qualifying hospital or facility or if at home. With the parent or guardian, a determination will be made



regarding which option for continued learning may be best for the student: individualized instruction as provided by a home/hospital teacher or independent study.

**District Actions Related to the Distance Learning Program [additional rows and actions may be added as necessary]**

Description	Total Funds	Contributing
Spring 2020 elementary remote learning packets (duplicating & mailing)	\$25,000	Y
Student Chromebooks	\$1,000,000	Y
Staff laptops	\$50,000	Y
Additional technology hardware for staff to support remote learning (e.g. monitors, cameras, tripods)	\$50,000	Y
Connectivity (hotspots and improved technology infrastructure)	\$150,000	Y
Professional Development	\$750,000	Y
Seesaw licenses, 5,155 total student licenses	\$29,557	Y
Additional Licensing software for remote Special Education Assessment protocols	\$12,500	Y
Costs associated with HIPAA Compliant teletherapy	\$2,500	Y
Continue to Fund Food Services Program during distance learning where no food sales are possible	\$2,943,426	Y

**Pupil Learning Loss**

[A description of how the LEA will address pupil learning loss that results from COVID-19 during the 2019–2020 and 2020–21 school years, including how the LEA will assess pupils to measure learning status, particularly in the areas of English language arts, English language development, and mathematics.]

**Elementary (KA-6)**

The District has revised the elementary assessment calendar to reflect the challenges of COVID-19 and remote learning. For the first trimester, the District has suspended the 1:1 assessments for DRA (K-2), DIBELS (3-6), and Beginning of Year Math (K-5). The District has made every effort to focus on trimesterly assessments that can be administered remotely and done independently by students (e.g., Let's Go Learn, MAP, Lucy Calkins Writing, CPM end of trimester benchmarks, etc.). Teachers are encouraged to use formative assessments that are part of the District-adopted curriculum (e.g. *Everyday Math*, *CPM*, *Wonders*, etc.) to monitor student learning, check for understanding, provide individual feedback, and differentiate instruction. With so many unknowns due to COVID-19, the 2020-21 elementary assessment calendar is subject to change and is a flexible living document.

**Middle School (7-8)**



Teachers are encouraged to use formative assessments to monitor student learning, check for understanding, provide individual feedback, and differentiate instruction in reference to state common core standards. Teachers also administer MAP Growth assessment three times a year to target instruction through accurate, and actionable evidence. Special education teachers use these results to to develop goals and give in the moment data to demonstrate growth towards goals.

give in the moment data to demonstrate growth towards goals and to target instruction through accurate, and actionable evidence.

### **State-mandated Testing**

- Grades 3-8, 11: SBAC ELA and Math
- Grades 5 and 8, 11: CA Science Test (CAST)
- Grades 5, 7, and 9: California Physical Fitness Test
- K-12: English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC) administered to qualifying students in accordance with the law

## **Pupil Learning Loss Strategies**

[A description of the actions and strategies the LEA will use to address learning loss and accelerate learning progress for pupils, as needed, including how these strategies differ for pupils who are English learners; low-income; foster youth; pupils with exceptional needs; and pupils experiencing homelessness.]

The key strategies to address learning loss include:

- address students' social and emotional wellbeing first
  - use a comprehensive approach to formative assessments
  - focus on assessments that already exist and are aligned with adopted instructional materials to provide stability for students and staff
  - focus on essential standards (endurance, leverage, and readiness)
- target student skills individually to address rather than reteaching prior year content to the whole class
- address needs for equitable access for learning
  - communicate with families clearly and frequently about student progress

The district will provide professional development and support for teachers and staff during the 2020-21 school year to address essential standards, learning loss and accelerate learning progress in a distance learning model to improve Tier 1 instruction. Professional Development will also focus on student engagement and feedback as we explore Best Practices for Distance. Teachers will engage in thinking critically about increasing student engagement in distance learning.

## **Effectiveness of Implemented Pupil Learning Loss Strategies**

[A description of how the effectiveness of the services or supports provided to address learning loss will be measured.]

Teachers, site administrators and district administration will review data on a regular basis (each trimester and quarter) to determine if the learning loss strategies are showing student improvement on formative assessments, benchmark assessments, surveys, and student engagement. At the elementary level, the data for many assessments is entered in our data and assessment platform, Illuminate, making it

easy to monitor students’ progress on multiple assessments. Teachers can also administer short online assessments in Illuminate for easy grading and monitoring.

Should the pupil learning loss strategies used not prove to be effective for a student, teachers will analyze why and attempt to use different strategies to address student learning needs. The District encourages teachers to use common planning time to discuss common assessments they may be administering in order to calibrate scoring by reviewing some student work together. This process often leads to informative discussions about effective lessons and strategies that may benefit a larger student group.

Should a student not demonstrate expected academic growth after many attempts at remedying learning loss, the teacher may want to seek advice from site colleagues and/or the site’s Student Success Team by reviewing different Tiers of support strategies.

The District will provide ongoing Professional Development about formative assessments, creating performance tasks, and how to motivate and engage students in distance learning.

**Site Actions to Address Pupil Learning Loss [additional rows and actions may be added as necessary]**

Description	Total Funds	Contributing
Professional Development: GLAD & SCOE Training	\$10,000	Y
Rosetta Stone for Newcomer Students	\$5,000	Y
Learning A-Z for 5th & 6th Grade teachers	\$2,000	Y
MAP Growth Reading Fluency		District Funded
8 hours of Collaboration time to develop Distance Learning Schedule	\$7,616	Y
Purchase of Additional Technology & Distance Learning Teaching Aides (Ipads, headsets for teachers, lap-tops)	\$60,000	Y
Additional Core Academic Support (additional staffing to support students during instructional day)	\$20,000	&
Student Learning Supports: Classroom curriculum, math manipulatives, games, additional books, etc.	\$147,000	

**Mental Health and Social and Emotional Well-Being**

[A description of how the LEA will monitor and support mental health and social and emotional well-being of pupils and staff during the school year, including the professional development and resources that will be provided to pupils and staff to address trauma and other impacts of COVID-19 on the school community.]

Through the Multi-Tier System of Support (MTSS) structure, we support both the development of academic and social-emotional and behavioral well-being (or mental health). MTSS supports district-wide coordination of a continuum of support making sure that all students’ needs are identified.

**Tier 1: Universal Supports - Whole School Safety and Prevention Plan**

- SRCS has developed a system to connect with students and families to promote attendance.
- SRCS school sites will consider strategies to become a trauma-responsive school system to support the school community.
- SRCS will engage with students and families using culturally responsive techniques.
- SRCS is committed to using universal screening to identify the social-emotional needs of students.
- SRCS will use professional development time to increase trauma knowledge and skills.
- SRCS will engage staff in professional development about mental health de-stigmatization.
- SRCS will include information about mental health and wellness resources on the district and school websites and in communication with families.
- SRCS will have a team at each site that will conduct a needs assessment in the form of a survey to check on the technology, food & shelter, academic, pandemic resiliency and other concerns. At the elementary level parents will be surveyed, and in secondary students complete their own survey. The response data will be analyzed and the site level Tier 2 teams will respond to and document the support offered in response to the needs indicated by students and families in the surveys.

### **Tier 1: Community and Family Wellness**

- SRCS will continue to collaborate with local government and private agencies to provide workshops and support services regarding adult and student mental health, trauma responsiveness, suicide prevention, and resilience.

### **Tier 1: Staff Wellness**

- SRCS acknowledges the importance of staff wellness and will work to support staff through the implementation of staff resilience, consultation, and mental health support.
- Prior to school opening, and ongoing, SRCS will provide training on secondary traumatic stress and self-care.
- SRCS District and Site Administrators will promote mindfulness techniques and staff social support.
- SRCS Leadership is committed to open and routine communication with staff members, encouraging self-care (e.g., saying no, accepting oneself and others, not being at 100% all the time).
- SRCS will promote the use of staff support groups to enhance staff cohesion and coping.
- District Therapists and Social Workers will be available to staff for support and referral to mental health services when appropriate.

### **Tier 1: Classroom Strategies**

- SRCS will engage staff in professional development for social-emotional learning to help teachers learn tools and strategies to lower anxiety and stress exhibited by students.
- SRCS will encourage staff to establish and implement routines for both in-person and distance learning, which include welcoming inclusion activities, engagement strategies, and an optimistic closure to class.
- SRCS will encourage staff to include stress management and mindfulness practices in classroom routines.
- SRCS is participating in the Resilience in School Environments (RISE) program to assess and improve the social-emotional wellness of students and staff.
- SRCS will encourage teachers to ask their students how they are doing and refer to counseling when students are struggling.
- SRCS leadership and staff will consider the impact of stress and trauma when assessing and supporting students.

-SRCS will connect with students and/or families to problem solve and find solutions to support students who are reluctant to turn on their cameras during distance learning.

### **Tier 2 / 3: Early and Targeted Interventions for Students and Staff**

-SRCS is committed to scaling up Social Emotional Learning to promote social-emotional competencies among students and staff.

-SRCS will continue to offer staff mental health support through SOS Counseling.

-SRCS is committed to building to the capacity of student mental health services.

-Social-Emotional Wellness support will be provided by the school counselors, district school-based therapists/social workers, and community-based organizations who contract with SRCS (SAY, Lifeworks, and Humanidad).

-Mental health staff will provide services either in-person or through a telehealth platform.

-Mental health resources will be consistent across the district and district-wide mental health providers should be coordinating services. (School Psychologists, School Counselors, School-Based Clinicians, and School-Based Therapists)

## **Pupil and Family Engagement and Outreach**

[A description of pupil engagement and outreach, including the procedures for tiered reengagement strategies for pupils who are absent from distance learning and how the LEA will provide outreach to pupils and their parents or guardians, including in languages other than English, when pupils are not meeting compulsory education requirements, or if the LEA determines the pupil is not engaging in instruction and is at risk of learning loss.]

### **Attendance Plan**

In accordance with AB 98, attendance will be taken daily for each student. Absences will be recorded by the teacher of record in the Student Information System (SIS) each day as required by AB 98 and any other state or federal mandates.

For attendance-taking purposes, teachers mark students present or absent during in-person learning. Attendance for Distance Learning is met through the following synchronous and asynchronous learning and codes have been created to identify the engagement:

-evidence of participation in online activities

-completion of regular assignments

-completion of assessments

-or contacts between any SRCS staff member and a student or their parent or guardian through phone, emails, or any type of communication

A pupil who does not participate in a portion of distance learning on a school day shall be documented as absent for that school day.

Students who are absent from distance learning for more than three school days or 60 percent of the instructional days in a school week, shall be subject to a tiered re-engagement process. Weekly lists are provided to each site by the district's SAFE Office to begin the re-engagement process and data is analyzed to discover patterns of absences, comparisons among the schools as well as within days of the week, and or differences among classrooms and grades.

## **Reengagement Process**

### **Tier 1**

- The automated messaging system will make daily phone calls for each day a student is marked absent by the teacher.
- Teachers or other SRCS employees will attempt to make contact with the student and parent.
- Attendance information will be available for parents through the Student Information Portal of the SIS.
- Teachers will create, publish, and inform students and parents of their grading practices in a hybrid or distance learning model.
- Assure assignments and grades are uploaded weekly.
- All contacts are documented in the Student Comments of the SIS

### **Tier 2**

- Students that are deemed 60% absent from the hybrid model or distance learning will be reported to the school site attendanceTeam that includes the attendance technician and administrator.
- School site may also choose to do a family home visit to better understand the issues concerning school engagement.
- As part of the re-engagement strategy, the school site attendance team will attempt to reach out and determine the cause for the absence. The Team will ensure that communication with the parent is working, phone dialer, emails, and internet access; determine if there is a breakdown in communication and make any corrections; and determine if the lack of participation is due to a lack of access and the site will take the necessary steps to ensure the issue is resolved.
- The parents will be informed that continued absences from distance learning could include: a conference with an administrator; development of an Attendance Plan through an Student Study Team (SST) process; through the SST process, other forms of support will also be discussed such as additional time needed, emotional or mental health supports, and potential greater academic supports and interventions; and discussion of the intervention of the student being removed from Distance Learning.

### **Tier 3**

- If the re-engagement strategies in Tiers 1 & 2 fail to improve distance learning attendance then a follow-up SST will be held,
- The school administrator may develop an Attendance Plan that includes: teacher engagement; both reward and consequences for further attendance,
- Review of the family circumstance for outside connection with health and social service;
- Meeting with District SAFE staff; and
- Make a recommendation to transitioning the student to full in-person learning.

## School Nutrition

[A description of how the LEA will provide nutritionally adequate meals for all pupils, including those students who are eligible for free or reduced-price meals, when pupils are participating in both in-person instruction and distance learning, as applicable.]

SRCS will offer breakfast and lunch meals to all students each school day. Non-Congregate Grab and Go meals breakfast and lunch meals will be offered each school day the student is not scheduled to be on campus. As of 9/8/2020 40.16% of students qualify for free or reduced-price meals.

In addition, the Redwood Empire Food Bank will continue to hold the Food Pantry at Cesar Chavez Language Academy each Thursday.

## Site: Actions to Implement the Learning Continuity Plan [additional rows and actions may be added as necessary]

Section	Description	Total Funds	Contributing
Mental Health and Social and Emotional Well-Being and Distance Learning Professional Development	GLAD PD, SCOE PD & Teacher Collaboration Time prior to the start of school. Contract with Humanidad Therapy to provide additional Social/Emotional Support	\$30,000 \$20,000	Y
Pupil Learning Loss	Online learning platforms: Istation, Dreambox, Reflex Math, Accelerated Reader, Brain Pop, Brain Pop ELL, Brain Pop Jr, & NewsEla.	\$35,000	Y
Distance Learning Professional Development	The addition of Professional Development for teachers with purchase of Distance Learning Playbook for all staff & purchase of Catlin Tucker PD (Blended & Online Learning).	\$4,176	Y

Pupil and Family Engagement Outreach	Curricular Materials for Reading at home libraries. Contract with Colors of Spanish Music & Movement (TK-1st grade) weekly.	Books: \$15,000 Colors of Spanish: \$30,000	Y
[The section of the Learning Continuity Plan related to the action described; may put N/A if the action does not apply to one specific section]			

## Increased or Improved Services for Foster Youth, English Learners, and Low-Income Students

Percentage to Increase or Improve Services	Increased Apportionment Based on the Enrollment of Foster Youth, English Learners, and Low-Income students
	\$371,000

### Required Descriptions

[For the actions being provided to an entire school, or across the entire school district or county office of education (COE), an explanation of (1) how the needs of foster youth, English learners, and low-income students were considered first, and (2) how these actions are effective in meeting the needs of these students.]

The needs of foster youth and McKinney-Vento youth were considered first when they were included in the SRCS plan to provide “support care for vulnerable populations,” which addressed the needs of Special Education Students and English Learners. The needs of homeless students were further considered when Student and Family Engagement staff was assigned to make contact with them and verify their housing status before the first week of school. The staff member reached out to each family and discussed the “support care” programs at Biella, Monroe, the Finley Center and at Salvation Army. Additionally, students were surveyed about their needs for accessing distance learning (Chromebooks and hotspots) and enrollment assistance was offered. Foster and homeless youth were also given priority status for district child care programs when they reopen. Making early personal contact with homeless families is especially effective for those students since they relocate frequently and often need assistance at the start of the school year.

[A description of how services for foster youth, English learners, and low-income students are being increased or improved by the percentage required.]

At-risk, or vulnerable students, have a prioritization when it comes to on-site childcare, as funded through the district. This childcare offers increased services in the areas of supporting the whole child during distance learning (through nutritious snacks and Social Emotional

Learning activities) and providing supplemental support to vulnerable students. Additionally, students identified in these subgroups have been prioritized for access to internet hot-spots and device distribution.





# Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan Template (2020–21)

The instructions for completing the Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan is available at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/re/lc/documents/lrngcntntyatndncpln-instructions.docx>.

Local Educational Agency (LEA) Name	Contact Name and Title	Email and Phone
Santa Rosa City Schools	Dr. Diann Kitamura Superintendent	<a href="mailto:dkitamura@srcs.k12.ca.us">dkitamura@srcs.k12.ca.us</a> 707-890-3800 x80101

## General Information

[A description of the impact the COVID-19 pandemic has had on the LEA and its community.]

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and under the guidance of the Sonoma County Health Department, the Sonoma County Office of Education, and the Office of the California Governor Gavin Newsom, Santa Rosa City Schools (SRCS) suspended in-person instruction and transitioned to distance learning on March 26, 2020. From that date through the end of the 2019-20 academic year, all instruction was delivered through a distance learning model where students participated in learning activities at home, with teachers delivering instruction through mostly digital platforms. The District distributed Chromebooks to students so that they could participate in distance learning and placed hotspots in areas where internet connectivity was insufficient to support online learning.

With an understanding that distance learning presented challenges to families and that students received differing levels of support at home, the District adjusted the grade reporting practices for the last grading period of the year. Before the school year ended, the District conducted a survey of all families and staff to understand better their situations and preferences for 2020-21 teaching and learning. On June 3, 2020, the District held a Special Board Meeting video conference to solicit further input from families and staff. In May, the District began to convene an Executive Committee and several subcommittees to begin to make recommendations for the development of the 2020-21 Return to School Plan. The Executive Committee and subcommittees worked throughout the summer to develop a plan while continuing to seek updated feedback from our constituents through surveys and Zoom meetings.

Due to the suspension of in-person learning, the regular rhythm and progression of student learning was interrupted across all grade levels and content areas. There were no universal screeners in place to monitor student progress remotely. Distance learning did not replicate the traditional classroom learning experience, despite our educators' best efforts during a sudden transition. The District recognized the challenges for parents and guardians who were helping their children with distance learning while also managing their own work

responsibilities. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many SRCS families experienced stress due to lost income or lost jobs and, in some cases, were displaced from their housing. Many families also experienced food insecurity and benefited from the District’s “grab and go” meal program. The shift to distance learning amid shelter-at-home guidance also impacted students’ social wellbeing, emotional wellness, and physical health. Despite the diligent efforts of school staff to maintain student-school connections, the social isolation at home and lack of in-class interactions were hard for students and families. Families also expressed concerns about increased screen time for their children and how it might affect their stress levels and physical wellbeing.

Santa Rosa City Schools had planned to begin the 2020-21 school year with a hybrid learning model and two distance learning choices for families. However, the District recognized the need for flexibility and the ability to pivot based on guidance from the County Health Office. When Sonoma County was returned to the state’s COVID-19 watchlist per the Governor’s orders and public health guidance, the SRCS Board of Education resolved on July 22, 2020 to launch the new school year fully remotely, with a return to in-person learning when public health guidelines allow. Since making this decision, SRCS has continued to seek input from the community and respond to their concerns through public feedback at Board meetings and scheduled Q&A forums for family and staff.

## Stakeholder Engagement

[A description of the efforts made to solicit stakeholder feedback.]

Stakeholder engagement has been and continues to be integral to our planning and development as we navigate the impact of COVID-19 on our students, families, and staff. SRCS is fortunate to have an engaged community that has provided input and asked questions since we transitioned to distance learning on March 26, 2020. We used this input to create a Return to School Plan that is grounded in public health and science, educational best practices, and wellness practices that promote the mental and physical health of our community.

Prior to the close of the 2019-20 school year, the District surveyed our families and staff to gather data on people’s situations, distance learning, and return-to-school models, with over 2,400 responses. The June 3rd Special Board Meeting video conference to seek further input from families and staff was attended by over 450 people. In May, the District convened an Executive Committee and several subcommittees to begin the process for developing the 2020-21 Return to School Plan.

The Executive Committee included representatives from the Santa Rosa Teachers Association (SRTA) and Santa Rosa Classified Chapter 75 (CSEA), school site administrators, and district office administrators. The subcommittee members, totaling 220 people, included students, parents, classified staff, certificated staff, and administrative staff. The subcommittees addressed six different topics: Health and Safety; Distance Learning for Health Compromised; Childcare; Elementary Instruction (KA-6); Middle School Instruction (7-8); and High School Instruction (9-12).

Each subcommittee established protocols, procedures, and meeting schedules to discuss, research, and prepare recommendations to present to the Executive Committee for inclusion in the final version of the plan. To further assist with this process, SRTA convened weekly Zoom focus groups (130 participating members) to help inform this work. Additionally, both SRCS and SRTA surveyed stakeholders to garner more input and guidance on the development of the plan.

On June 24, 2020, a Return to School Executive Committee Working Group was convened to create the draft version of the Return to School plan, which was further developed by the Executive Committee, the Executive Cabinet, and through negotiations with SRCS Classified Chapter 75 classified staff and SRTA certificated staff.

As SRCS prepared to return to school remotely, the District continued to seek staff and community input--as well as address questions—through public hearings at Board meetings and through Q&A Webinars. The Board meetings were held on: July 8<sup>th</sup>, July 22<sup>nd</sup>, Aug. 12<sup>th</sup>, and Aug. 26<sup>th</sup>.

The District held Q&A Webinars in separate sessions for staff and the community on July 30<sup>th</sup> and August 6<sup>th</sup>. The first staff session, held via Zoom, was attended by over 500 of our employees, with 300 participating in the second session. The community sessions were broadcast live via Zoom and Facebook, with separate sessions available to English and Spanish speakers. To facilitate discussion, attendees were encouraged to submit their questions in advance to a designated email address.

In addition to these efforts to communicate with staff and families, SRCS has also created a Return to School page on our website with English and Spanish resources to address FAQs, to explain different learning models, to provide updated meal information, and to provide guidance for different wellness options for family and staff.

The District values continued input from our community and will work to review and integrate additional feedback into our planning as we move forward in an extremely dynamic situation that requires our collective best thinking and practices.

[A description of the options provided for remote participation in public meetings and public hearings.]

Board meetings were open to the public via Facebook and then Zoom due to the shelter-at-home order. The meetings were open and accessible for all via remote participation. Public hearings are held at our regularly scheduled and agendaized Board meetings. The Friday before each Board meeting, the agenda is posted at the District Office and on the District website. Anyone wishing to speak on an item related to remote learning was given notice in these postings, with bilingual directions on how the process works.

Parents were notified about the July 30<sup>th</sup> and August 6<sup>th</sup> Q&A Webinars by District email and the ParentSquare communication application . Parents had the opportunity to participate in English and Spanish sessions via Facebook or Zoom.

[A summary of the feedback provided by specific stakeholder groups.]

In May 2020, families and staff (certificated and classified) responded to end-of-year surveys regarding their intentions for 2020-21 and their feelings about how teaching and learning would proceed during the continued pandemic. Over 1,800 families and over 600 staff members responded, with 72% percent of staff respondents identifying their position as certificated. The Santa Rosa Teachers Association (SRTA) also conducted a survey of its members, with 548 responding.

**Strong Desire to Return to School/Workplace and Engage in Different Instructional Models**

In the survey of families, ninety-nine percent of respondents stated their child or children were returning to a SRCS school. For SRTA members, there was also a strong desire to return to school with safety precautions.

All constituents recognized that a return to school would probably look different than pre-COVID-19 due to restrictions on how schools would be allowed to operate. When asked about what learning models they would prefer, families said they preferred Socially-distanced In-person Learning (47%) or Hybrid Learning (46%). Santa Rosa City Schools staff, both classified and certificated, stated a preference for the Hybrid Model (45%), with 27% supporting the Socially-distanced In-person model. The least popular choice for families was fully remote learning (14%), while 28% of SRCS staff supported that model.

When asked how comfortable stakeholders would be in sending their children back to school or returning to the school/workplace, most families responded that they were comfortable or very comfortable (58%), with 32% stating they would be uncomfortable or very uncomfortable. The responses for SRCS staff showed that 40% of respondents felt comfortable or very comfortable returning to schools/workplaces, 31% were hesitant, and 30% stated they would feel uncomfortable or very uncomfortable.

When asked what concerned them about continued distance learning, teachers stated through the SRTA survey that they were either concerned or very concerned about the following topics:

63% Insufficient instructional time with all students to address all academic standards

66% Managing curriculum for the hybrid model (online and in-person learning)

61% Assessments and 1:1 testing

With regard to technology priorities that directly impact the ability to deliver remote learning, 92% of teachers responding cited a need for software licenses for programs, and new and better applications for distance learning. Ninety-three percent of respondents also stated a need for more technology support in order to teach remotely. Teachers cited these priorities technology priorities for students: 1:1 technology that allows students to participate fully in remote learning (92%); fully-established email accounts so student-teacher connection can begin immediately (85%), and adequate technology support (93%).

In the event that SRCS would not be able to return to full-time in-person learning, stakeholders were asked about their childcare solutions. Nearly fifty-two percent of respondents stated their child or children were old enough to supervise themselves. Thirty-six percent expressed that their child or children would be supervised by an immediate family member living in their home or by a family member or friend who lives close. Almost fourteen percent of family responses showed a need for fee-based childcare, with 10% stating they would need SRCS to provide fee-based childcare.

Classified and certificated staff responses stated that 12% would have childcare supervised by an immediate family member living in their home or by a family member or friend who lives close, with 16% stating a need for fee-based childcare. Seven percent expressed a need for SRCS fee-based childcare. Seventy-two percent of respondents said this question did not apply to them. This correlates to results from the SRTA survey where 68% of responding members shared they did not have childcare needs.

## **Safety**

For all stakeholders responding to SRCS surveys, safety was paramount to any return to school, whether it be full-time in-person learning or a hybrid model. All family responses were predicated on the basis that SRCS would adhere to all COVID-19 safety guidelines to keep children safe, as stated in the survey questions being asked.

Details from the SRTA survey reveal that 55% of members identify themselves as being in a high-risk category (underlying health condition, age, or caring for elderly). Among the certificated staff responding to the survey, 67% would like to come back to school with safety precautions. Sixty-nine percent of SRTA responses indicated an overwhelming demand for safety. Teachers recognized that many safety measures would be required to be safe at school under public health guidelines. Fifty-two percent of SRTA respondents called for identification and implementation of site teams to support COVID-19 health and safety protocols. Members stated that they are flexible about different learning models, as long as safety concerns are fully addressed:

53% Online learning only

55% Most online learning with in-person support for certain students

70% Hybrid model

41% In-person learning only

### **Supporting Students Socially, Emotionally, and Academically**

Through public forums such as Q&A Webinars and Board meetings, families consistently expressed concerns about their children's social and academic progress due to the March 26, 2020 suspension of in-person learning. As many families experienced economic loss, job loss, and food insecurity due to the pandemic, additional stress has been placed on all family members. During the spring distance learning, many students also mourned the loss of in-person learning and the social and emotional fulfillment it brings through daily peer interactions, with many struggling with the new-found isolation under shelter-at-home orders. All of this was no doubt compounded by Sonoma County's recent fires and our ongoing recovery from this trauma.

The SRTA survey results showed that teachers have great concern for students as they return to school, recognizing that they will need a lot of academic and social and emotional support. Thirty-four percent of teachers responding desired expanded Tier 2 program support for larger quantities of qualifying students, while 44% of responses indicated a need for additional health and human services professionals. Nearly half of those responding to the SRTA survey (49%), suggested training for families to increase empowerment on health and safety protocols and procedures.

Through public forums such as Q&A Webinars and Board meetings, families expressed concerns about their children's learning progress and possible learning loss due to the suspension of in-person during the spring. With the abrupt shift to distance learning, many felt underprepared to support their children's remote learning and some children had difficulty adjusting to distance learning.

The SRTA survey results indicated that the majority of those responding were concerned about student engagement (75%) and student accountability (71%). Additionally, these survey results identified several areas of interest for student learning when students returned to school in person or online:

60% Academic counseling, support, and intervention classes for students needing academic assistance

- 46% Modifications to ease transition back to in-person learning
- 76% Technology and curriculum support for newly introduced or mandated learning platforms
- 66% Elimination of all non-mandated high stakes testing to minimize encroachment into active instructional time
- 74% Plan for following up with non-engaged students

### **Professional Development and Collaboration**

In the year-end SRCS survey, teachers were asked to rate their ability to use certain technology tools. The majority of responding teachers felt comfortable or very comfortable using video conferencing tools (75%), Google Classroom (68%), and Google Applications (62%). In contrast, they stated that they needed support or would like some support with Seesaw (76%), screencasting tools (63%), and Illuminate Online Assessments (62%).

In the SRTA survey, teachers agreed or strongly agreed they had a need for two types of professional development: “one and done” (43%) and ongoing sessions (52%). In addition to professional development, teachers overwhelmingly stated a desire for collaboration with peers at the site-level (75%) and with job-alike colleagues in the District (59%). Teachers also expressed a desire to provide instruction more collaboratively through team models, with 36% of respondents wanting to build partnerships and 48% wanting to build a team. Directly related to this desire for collaboration and team models, teachers suggested that this might be the time to begin to explore and implement more Project-based Learning (PBL) as we analyze successful student engagement models of instruction (57% responded maybe and 18% affirmatively).

Teachers were also asked to identify their 2020-21 professional development priorities, with the following topics among those deemed important or very important:

- 79% Best practices for online teaching
- 77% Supporting equal access to learning for all students
- 74% Motivating students to participate in distance learning
- 88% Time to prepare for distance learning through collaboration with colleagues
- 85% Delivering efficient and effective instruction through the hybrid model
- 71% Expectations for Special Education case managers

In analyzing the stakeholder data, Santa Rosa City Schools identified six dominant themes that informed the development of the Return to School Plan and The Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan: Connection; Instruction; Safety; Technology; Communication; and Professional Development.

[A description of the aspects of the Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan that were influenced by specific stakeholder input.]

All aspects of this plan were directly influenced and made better by participating stakeholders as we established priorities that aligned with each of the six themes identified through the analysis of survey and meeting feedback:

### **Connection**

- Social-emotional wellness
- Connection to community partnership
- Relationship-building
- Back-to-school transitions

### **Instruction**

- Clear expectations
- Essential standards
- Flexible instructional strategies
- Assessment to guide instruction
- Access to support and intervention

### **Safety**

- Adherence to County Health guidelines
- Create safety protocols and systems
- COVID-19 training for students, parents, and staff
- Point-person for COVID-related topics

### **Technology**

- Technology access for all students
- Technology support for students and families
- Consistency with platforms and apps

### **Communication**

- Frequent, timely, and centralized communication
- Consistency
- Use of one platform by staff and teacher to communicate with students and parents

### **Professional Development**

- Need for learning, planning, and collaborating



- Collaboration time to design curriculum together (horizontally, vertically, and district-wide)
- In-person training for families

The wide range of input and requests from stakeholders also inspired the return-to-school working committee to identify these overarching principles that guided the decision-making process for this plan.

- Safeguard the health and safety of students and staff
- Comply with State, County Health Department, and Centers for Disease Control guidelines
- Consider feedback from diverse and multiple sources
- Ensure equitable access to teaching and learning (prioritize most vulnerable students, individualized student check-ins, consistent online experiences)
- Leverage resources to address achievement and opportunity gaps
- Adhere to established learning plans while remaining flexible
- Use an inclusive and fair decision-making process to revise established plans
- Leverage community resources to enhance planning
- Foster student learning and progress
- Reduce negative or unintended consequences
- Maintain positive learning and working environments

## Continuity of Learning

### In-Person Instructional Offerings

[A description of the actions the LEA will take to offer classroom-based instruction whenever possible, particularly for students who have experienced significant learning loss due to school closures in the 2019–2020 school year or are at a greater risk of experiencing learning loss due to future school closures.]

Given the uncertainty of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, in-person instruction may not be immediately allowable under state and local health orders. However, SRCS has recognized the need to be prepared to offer in-person instruction when possible. The State provided a waiver process to allow for in-person instruction for students in need

SRCS had planned to begin the 2020-21 school year by offering three learning model options to students and families, with the understanding that the dynamic COVID-19 situation may make it necessary to pivot:

#### 1. Hybrid Model (2 days at school, 3 days at home)

- Students assigned to one of the two cohorts (A or B) attending school either Monday and Tuesday **OR** Thursday and Friday.



- On the three days, they would not be in school, they would learn from home (or child care).
- On Wednesdays, all students would have a virtual check-in with their teacher or other support staff and the schools would be cleaned between cohorts.
- Teachers would be focusing on the essential standards of the California Standards and assessing students regularly to determine if any academic intervention is needed.
- Keep family members in the same cohort so they would be attending school on the same days.

## 2. Distance Learning Model (5 days at home)

- All teaching would be done virtually (on a computer/Chromebook) and class assignments would be provided via a district-wide common online platform.
- Students would have virtual classes with their teachers every day except for Wednesdays when they would have a virtual check-in with their teacher or other support staff.

## 3. Learning House Model (5 days at home)

- Would create a community of more than 100 learners from multiple school sites.
- Students would work with a small group of educators and build an online community.
- Students would build on their own strengths with real-world projects and integration of core subjects and electives.
- Intervention and enrichment would be embedded into students' process of learning.

When Sonoma County was returned to the state's COVID-19 watchlist per the Governor's orders and public health guidance, the SRCS Board of Education resolved on July 22, 2020 to launch the new school year fully remotely, following guidelines for Distance Learning Model #2 and #3 where students engage in remote learning 5 days per week.

When the District is given Public Health clearance to resume in-person learning, we will follow public health guidance.

## Actions Related to In-Person Instructional Offerings [additional rows and actions may be added as necessary]

Description	Total Funds	Contributing
COVID-19 Coordinator	\$170,582	Y
COVID-19 Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)	\$1,382,853	N
Professional Cleaning and Sanitizing of SRCS facilities	\$1,000,000	N
Air Filters and Purifiers	\$500,000	N
Professional Development	\$500,000	Y
Return to School Committee	\$50,000	Y
COVID safety training for staff, student, parents, and community	\$125,000	Y
Outdoor Learning Spaces	\$250,000	Y
Air Ventilation and Circulation	\$650,000	N
Modified Classroom Layouts/signage	\$50,000	Y

# Distance Learning Program

## Continuity of Instruction

[A description of how the LEA will provide continuity of instruction during the school year to ensure pupils have access to a full curriculum of substantially similar quality regardless of the method of delivery, including the LEA's plan for curriculum and instructional resources that will ensure instructional continuity for pupils if a transition between in-person instruction and distance learning is necessary.]

In its work to prepare for the return to school, the District—through the work of the Return to School committees and subcommittees—identified and discussed models of instruction that would be most effective and flexible in the face of challenges due to COVID-19. Ultimately, three models emerged from the committees and negotiations: Hybrid, Distance Learning, and Learning House. All three would accommodate the social distancing requirements of Sonoma County Health Orders, California Department of Education Guidelines, and the Sonoma County Road Map to Safe Reopening.

The Distance Learning Model is one of the 3 back-to-school models offered to families. It is also the model the District will use when there are school closures and students and staff cannot be at sites, when all instruction will be remote.

Distance Learning is designed to provide a traditional education similar to in-person learning. The difference is all teaching will be done virtually and course work will be provided via Google Classroom and Seesaw. Students will be taught virtually every day except for Wednesdays when they will have a virtual check-in.

Distance Learning includes the following:

- Students meet with a group of classmates and teachers from their current school
- Middle and high school students have classes with teachers from different subject areas, just as they would in traditional school
- Access to content and assignments via Seesaw and Google Classroom
- Students will attend online school every day except Wednesday, when teachers are in professional development and have collaborative planning time. On that day, students will check-in with teachers but will not have online instruction
- Students enrolled in specialized programs (such as ArtQuest, IB, SPARQ, University Center, Early College Magnet) will be able to continue in those programs through Distance Learning
- Students enrolled in charter schools (CCLA, SRFACS, SRCSA, SRACS) will be able to continue in those schools through Distance Learning
- All learners are served, including Special Education, English Language Learners
- Intervention and enrichment opportunities will be provided
- Electives will be offered

## Access to Devices and Connectivity

[A description of how the LEA will ensure access to devices and connectivity for all pupils to support distance learning.]

Santa Rosa City Schools will work to ensure equitable access to education for all students by providing adequate access to connectivity and technological devices to participate in the educational program and to complete assigned work. We will ensure that all students have access to devices and Wi-Fi.

The District recognized that many of the existing student Chromebooks were reaching obsolescence and developed a plan for cyclical replacement of Chromebooks. New devices will be deployed as they come into the district. All students will be offered a device. Families that choose not to use a school device will need to explicitly state that their child has a device.

Families will receive information from their site principal. Teachers who expressed need will also be provided new laptops to ensure connectivity and support for students through distance learning. All staff will have access to their classrooms and school sites to ensure resources and connectivity as needed.

## Pupil Participation and Progress

[A description of how the LEA will assess pupil progress through live contacts and synchronous instructional minutes, and a description of how the LEA will measure participation and time value of pupil work.]

Attendance: The student is expected to check the teacher's distance learning platform (e.g., Google Classroom, Seesaw) and District Gmail and complete assignments. Students will have opportunities to check in with the teacher during specified times.

There are multiple ways to assess student progress and understanding of grade and subject level content. These may include content exams, projects, presentations, and performance tasks, among other things. Performance tasks may be described as multi-step academic exercises that allow students to demonstrate knowledge and content application, synthesis, creativity, etc., with content knowledge in a real and/or imagined context. Performance tasks are often accompanied by rubrics that allow for levels of performance and subtle differences in assessment feedback to students.

In hybrid, distance learning, and the Learning House, certain types of assessments such as performance tasks may be used more than others. Assessments may serve both formative and summative purposes, providing teachers the necessary information to make instructional decisions and supporting students in receiving feedback to adjust the demonstration of learning.

## Distance Learning Professional Development

[A description of the professional development and resources that will be provided to staff to support the distance learning program, including technological support.]

Santa Rosa City Schools is committed to supporting the professional growth of its staff, both certificated and classified. In response to the County's shelter-at-home order, a menu of professional development classes was offered virtually on Monday, April 13, 2020, focused on tools and strategies to support a distance learning model of instruction.

As we planned for return to school in August, the District recognized the need for additional, ongoing training and collaboration focused on highly effective tools, skills, and strategies for meeting the diverse needs of our students. To ensure equitable learning and social and emotional outcomes for all students during this new way of teaching and learning, as well as the expectation of AB 98, all staff are expected to attend professional development.

Considering District and SRTA survey data, as well as input from the various stakeholder committees, the following professional development topics and formats have been considered. This list is not exhaustive but rather reflects current needs and wants expressed by staff in light of these new models of instruction, hybrid and distance learning.

**Instruction:** essential standards; content specific; best practices for distance learning; strategies to motivate students in a distance learning environment; use of Newsela and Learning A-Z to support differentiation; effective lesson design for distance learning; Culturally, Responsively, Sustaining and Humanizing Education (CRSH); strategies for engagement in district curriculum in a hybrid/distance learning format (e.g., *Everyday Math*, *Wonders*, etc.); flipped classroom; Project Based Learning; formative assessment; diagnostic tools such as MAP, Inspect and Let's Go Learn.

**Technology:** Google Classroom and Google Apps; screencasting tools; Zoom; Seesaw; Class Dojo; ParentSquare; creating engaging videos for online teaching and learning; class webpage development; Acellus; and other applications to enhance distance learning

**Social Emotional Wellness and Mental Health:** Trauma-informed care; self-care; psychological First Aid; class meetings; classroom community building; restorative practices; managing social media consumption; safety protocols and precautions; Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports (PBIS); addressing current events through grade level appropriate conversations; encouraging and supporting student voice and advocacy.

**Distance Learning Plans:** Distance learning plans for each individual student will provide an explanation of how the student's IEP will be executed in that model of instruction. Because a distance learning instructional model is different from an in-person instructional model there will be obvious variations in how the IEP will be executed.

## Staff Roles and Responsibilities

[A description of the new roles and responsibilities of affected staff as a result of COVID-19.]

In response to the COVID-19 crisis and as identified in the Return to School Plan, the District has created a new position, COVID Coordinator. This role's primary purpose is to coordinate COVID-19 related clear, consistent, and aligned information, processes, and protocols to staff district-wide. The COVID Coordinator will work closely with Business Services, Teaching and Learning, Student and Family Services, and Human Resources, as well as staff to provide resources and support to navigate information regarding COVID 19.

[CSEA 75 20-21 #3 MOU COVID-19 RTS](#)

[SRTA 20-21 #1 MOU COVID-19 RTS](#)

## Supports for Pupils with Unique Needs

[A description of the additional supports the LEA will provide during distance learning to assist pupils with unique needs, including English learners, pupils with exceptional needs served across the full continuum of placements, pupils in foster care, and pupils who are experiencing homelessness.]

### **English Learners**

All English learners will be provided with a minimum of 30 minutes a day of Designated ELD instruction by a certificated staff member. This Designated ELD instruction shall be targeted at EL proficiency levels with groupings of not more than two proficiency levels, aligned to the 2012 California English Language Development Standards, focused on communicative purposes, not discrete grammar instruction, address the speaking, listening, reading and writing domains and include systematic development of academic vocabulary. For the secondary level, this includes at least one period of Designated ELD per school day, with two periods for newcomer students, and is part of a comprehensive Designated ELD course sequence. Board-approved curriculum (*Wonders Designated ELD*, *Inside the U.S.*, *Inside*, and *Edge*) must be used to support the instruction.

The World House Program has been established to support newly arrived middle school youth in Santa Rosa City Schools. The program will operate at Lawrence Cook Middle School. The focus of World House is to support newcomers in learning English while integrating into a new country, new culture, and a new educational system. The World House Program is set up to support students who have been in the US for 0-2 years.

For Distance Learning, the following guidelines are in place to ensure that EL students are served through remote teaching and learning:

Synchronous Designated ELD: live virtual lessons/meetings; phone calls; small group lessons; by proficiency levels with scaffolds; in mixed level groups for fluency building; teacher feedback and support as needed

Asynchronous Designated ELD: previously recorded lessons and videos; phone and text messages; ELD assignments/projects using approved ELD curriculum; paper and pencil activities; reading logs and journals; goal setting and reflection

### **Foster and Homeless Youth**

SRCS is committed to supporting the foster and homeless youth in the district in collaboration with the Sonoma County Office of Education. The District recognizes that additional challenges may occur for this population during the COVID-19 pandemic and is committed to providing the necessary support for their physical, emotional and academic health. This support takes the form of collaboration with students and families, school and district staff, and other county agencies in order to remove barriers to educational access and expand educational opportunities. Students identified as foster youth are supported by the Supporting Our Language Learners (SOLL) counselors in addition to a comprehensive school counselor.

By removing barriers that occur due to frequent changes in home placement, SRCS helps to ensure that foster and homeless youth can benefit from uninterrupted educational access. AB 175 (Foster Youth Bill of Rights) provides protections for this vulnerable population of

students. School districts are also responsible for ensuring that youth who are experiencing homelessness have full access to educational programs in accordance with the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

All Sonoma County students have the right to enroll in and attend school, even when housing becomes uncertain. If a child lacks “fixed, regular, and adequate housing,” federal and state laws require immediate school enrollment for that child – even without proof of residency or medical, school, or legal guardianship records.

McKinney-Vento and Foster Youth students have priority access to the district provided Chromebooks and hotspots during Distance Learning. Additionally, SRCS students housed in the Catholic Charities Family Shelter in Santa Rosa were also provided with headphones. SRCS Child Nutrition Services is also supporting students housed in the Catholic Charities Family Shelter by delivering meals.

### **Special Education**

To every extent possible, students with exceptional needs shall have the elements in their Individualized Education Program (IEP) met. This could include both in-person and distance learning settings. Students’ Case Managers will be required to meet with families to determine which, if any, services need to be adjusted.

During this time, regardless of the model, all elements of the Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) must be met. Service providers such as Speech and Language or Counseling services must continue to provide services, either through online services or in-person as developed in the IEP.

However, distance learning is not accessible to many students with exceptional needs. Many populations cannot have their developmental, educational, health and other needs met in an online environment.

Students with mild to moderate disabilities may benefit from hybrid models that include some time in-person and some time in the distance learning model depending on their age. These decisions will be made in consultation with the IEP Team. The IEP is the roadmap for each student with a disability, and in these challenging and evolving times including COVID-19 restrictions, it is critical that the IEP team meets and works with the family to jointly determine what is working for each student in distance learning and a hybrid environment as well as what accommodations and modality of learning allows the greatest access.

To support the student’s access to the general education classroom within the hybrid and distance learning learning models, and and to meet the required elements of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), SRCS will:

- provide services in the IEP in the least restrictive setting
- meet current service obligations of all IEPs, or modify current IEPs to meet the needs of any changes in service
- all related Service Providers, School Psychologists, Speech and Language Pathologists, Adapted Physical Education, and School Nurses shall provide services to the students they are assigned as outlined in each student’s IEP

**Distance learning plans for each individual student will provide an explanation of how the student's IEP will be executed in that model of instruction. Because a distance learning instructional model is different from an in-person instructional model there will be obvious variations in how the IEP will be executed.**

If families are experiencing any concerns with the distance learning or hybrid model, Case Managers and SRCS Program Managers are available to support students.

### **Advanced Learner Program and Services (ALPS)**

The Teacher on Special Assignment (TOSA) for ALPS will offer a series of enrichment classes for 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> graders once per week by grade level. Students will have the opportunity to identify projects of interest as they learn about the Icons of Depth and Complexity and concept-based learning. Each session will be 8 weeks long and will involve synchronous and asynchronous teaching and learning. Each session is limited to 20 students maximum.

### **Independent Study**

Independent Study is available for grades Kindergarten through 12th grade, and is authorized by the Board of Education in Board Policy 6158 as an optional, alternative instructional strategy for eligible students whose needs may be best met through study outside of the regular classroom setting. Students in this program generally work independently and meet with a teacher once a week. Independent study offers a means of individualizing the educational plan to serve students who desire a more challenging educational experience, whose health or other personal circumstances make classroom attendance difficult, who are unable to access course(s) due to scheduling problems, and/or who need to make up credits or fill gaps in their learning.

Students who want to participate in Independent Study will work with their site administration according to a written agreement and under the general supervision of a credentialed teacher, or teachers. While independent study students follow the district-adopted curriculum and meet the district graduation requirements, independent study offers flexibility to meet individual student needs, interests, and styles of learning. The minimum number of days a student can enroll in Independent Study is 5 and the maximum is 18 days. To continue in Independent Study past 18 days, approval is needed from the administrator.

### **Home and Hospital**

Home and Hospital will also be under the umbrella of the Learning House. The Home and Hospital Instruction Program (California Education Code Section 48206.3) and Board Policy 6183 serves students who incur a temporary disability, which makes attendance in the regular day classes or alternative education program impossible or inadvisable. Home-hospital serves students with a temporary disability in the student's home or in a hospital or other residential health facility, excluding state hospitals. The parent or guardian will need to notify the school of the student's presence in a qualifying hospital or facility or if at home. With the parent or guardian, a determination will be made regarding which option for continued learning may be best for the student: individualized instruction as provided by a home/hospital teacher or independent study.



## Actions Related to the Distance Learning Program [additional rows and actions may be added as necessary]

Description	Total Funds	Contributing
Spring 2020 elementary remote learning packets (duplicating & mailing)	\$25,000	Y
Student Chromebooks	\$950,000	Y
Staff laptops	\$50,000	Y
Additional technology hardware for staff to support remote learning (e.g. monitors, cameras, tripods)	\$50,000	Y
Connectivity (hotspots and improved technology infrastructure)	\$150,000	Y
Professional Development	\$500,000	Y
Seesaw licenses, 5,155 total student licenses	\$29,557	Y
Newsela – cost for adding 3rd - 6 <sup>th</sup> grades to subscription	\$25,612	Y
Lexia Reading 9 site licenses for all KA-6 grade students	\$107,100	Y
Additional Licensing software for remote Special Education Assessment protocols	\$12,500	Y
Costs associated with HIPAA Compliant teletherapy	\$2,500	Y
Continue to Fund Food Services Program during distance learning where no food sales are possible	\$2,439,959	Y
Nearpod licenses	\$40,000	
Screencastify licenses & Prof. Development	\$46,050	
Edpuzzle licenses	\$14,850	
Notable Inc (dba Kami) licenses	\$21,750	

## Pupil Learning Loss

[A description of how the LEA will address pupil learning loss that results from COVID-19 during the 2019–2020 and 2020–21 school years, including how the LEA will assess pupils to measure learning status, particularly in the areas of English language arts, English language development, and mathematics.]

### Elementary (KA-6)

The District has revised the elementary assessment calendar to reflect the challenges of COVID-19 and remote learning. For the first trimester, the District has suspended the 1:1 assessments for DRA (K-2), DIBELS (3-6), and Beginning of Year Math (K-5). The District has made every effort to focus on trimesterly assessments that can be administered remotely and done independently by students (e.g., Let's Go Learn, MAP, Lucy Calkins Writing, CPM end of trimester benchmarks, etc.). Teachers are encouraged to use formative assessments that are part of the District-adopted curriculum (e.g. *Everyday Math*, *CPM*, *Wonders*, etc.) to monitor student learning, check for understanding,

provide individual feedback, and differentiate instruction. With so many unknowns due to COVID-19, the 2020-21 elementary assessment calendar is subject to change and is a flexible living document.

### **Middle School (7-8)**

Teachers are encouraged to use formative assessments to monitor student learning, check for understanding, provide individual feedback, and differentiate instruction in reference to state common core standards. Teachers also administer MAP Growth assessment three times a year to target instruction through accurate, and actionable evidence. Special education teachers use these results to develop goals and give in the moment data to demonstrate growth towards goals.

### **High School (9-12)**

Teachers are encouraged to use formative assessments to monitor student learning, check for understanding, provide individual feedback, and differentiate instruction in reference to common core or Career Technical Education pathway industry standards. Special Education teachers administer the MAP Growth assessment three times a year to develop goals, give in the moment data to demonstrate growth towards goals and to target instruction through accurate, and actionable evidence.

### **State-mandated Testing**

- Grades 3-8, 11: SBAC ELA and Math
- Grades 5 and 8, 11: CA Science Test (CAST)
- Grades 5, 7, and 9: California Physical Fitness Test
- K-12: English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC) administered to qualifying students in accordance with the law

## **Pupil Learning Loss Strategies**

[A description of the actions and strategies the LEA will use to address learning loss and accelerate learning progress for pupils, as needed, including how these strategies differ for pupils who are English learners; low-income; foster youth; pupils with exceptional needs; and pupils experiencing homelessness.]

The key strategies to address learning loss include:

- address students' social and emotional wellbeing first
- use a comprehensive approach to formative assessments
- focus on assessments that already exist and are aligned with adopted instructional materials to provide stability for students and staff
- focus on essential standards (endurance, leverage, and readiness)
- target student skills individually to address rather than reteaching prior year content to the whole class
- address needs for equitable access for learning
- communicate with families clearly and frequently about student progress

The district will provide professional development and support for teachers and staff during the 2020-21 school year to address essential standards, learning loss and accelerate learning progress in a distance learning model to improve Tier 1 instruction. Professional

Development will also focus on student engagement and feedback as we explore Best Practices for Distance Learning. Teachers engage in thinking critically about increasing student engagement in distance learning.

## Effectiveness of Implemented Pupil Learning Loss Strategies

[A description of how the effectiveness of the services or supports provided to address learning loss will be measured.]

Teachers, site administrators and district administration will review data on a regular basis (each trimester and quarter) to determine if the learning loss strategies are showing student improvement on formative assessments, benchmark assessments, surveys, and student engagement. At the elementary level, the data for many assessments is entered in our data and assessment platform, Illuminate, making it easy to monitor students' progress on multiple assessments. Teachers can also administer short online assessments in Illuminate for easy grading and monitoring.

Should the pupil learning loss strategies used not prove to be effective for a student, teachers will analyze why and attempt to use different strategies to address student learning needs. The District encourages teachers to use common planning time to discuss common assessments they may be administering in order to calibrate scoring by reviewing some student work together. This process often leads to informative discussions about effective lessons and strategies that may benefit a larger student group.

Should a student not demonstrate expected academic growth after many attempts at remedying learning loss, the teacher may want to seek advice from site colleagues and/or the site's Student Success Team by reviewing different Tiers of support strategies.

The District will provide ongoing Professional Development about formative assessments, creating performance tasks, and how to motivate and engage students in distance learning.

## Actions to Address Pupil Learning Loss [additional rows and actions may be added as necessary]

Description	Total Funds	Contributing
Professional Development	\$556,520	Y
Labster: virtual lab simulations to support grades 9 - 12 science courses	\$27,500	Y
Acellus: to support remote learning for students in grades 7 - 12 with a focus on math	\$150,000	Y
Rosetta Stone	\$154,190	Y
Professional Development for Rosetta Stone	\$9,000	Y
GLAD Training (Secondary EL)	\$13,000	Y
Professional Development for GLAD Training	\$14,400	Y
Professional Development for Bay Area Writing Project	\$6,480	Y
Learning A-Z	\$56,437	Y
Let's Go Learn	\$120,290	Y

Ethnic Studies/ CRSH 2.0/CRSH for Admin Professional Development	\$83,150	Y
Platforms for Distance Learning music and video, secondary	\$80,000	Y
Art Supplies for Students at Home Distance Learning	\$100,000	Y
Conversations in Common Reading project	\$10,000	Y
Arts Integration/Distance Learning PD	\$1,500	Y
California All State Music Education Conference	\$1500	Y
Westminster Woods	\$11,851	Y
Landpaths	\$40,000	Y
MAP Growth Reading Fluency: to support K-5 teachers in measuring oral reading fluency, literal comprehension, and foundational skills-for both English and Spanish speakers.	\$9,500.00	Y
Extra Day of Professional Development added to the 2020-2021 school year	\$471,434	Y

## Mental Health and Social and Emotional Well-Being

[A description of how the LEA will monitor and support mental health and social and emotional well-being of pupils and staff during the school year, including the professional development and resources that will be provided to pupils and staff to address trauma and other impacts of COVID-19 on the school community.]

Through the Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) structure, we support both the development of academic and social-emotional and behavioral well-being (or mental health). MTSS supports district-wide coordination of a continuum of support making sure that all students' needs are identified.

### **Tier 1: Universal Supports - Whole School Safety and Prevention Plan**

- SRCS has developed a system to connect with students and families to promote attendance.
- SRCS school sites will consider strategies to become a trauma-responsive school system to support the school community.
- SRCS will engage with students and families using culturally responsive techniques.
- SRCS is committed to using universal screening to identify the social-emotional needs of students.
- SRCS will use professional development time to increase trauma knowledge and skills.
- SRCS will engage staff in professional development about mental health de-stigmatization.
- SRCS will include information about mental health and wellness resources on the district and school websites and in communication with families.
- SRCS will have a team at each site that will conduct a needs assessment in the form of a survey to check on the technology, food & shelter, academic, pandemic resiliency and other concerns. At the elementary level parents will be surveyed, and in secondary students complete their own survey. The response data will be analyzed and the site level Tier 2 teams will respond to and document the support offered in response to the needs indicated by students and families in the surveys.

### **Tier 1: Community and Family Wellness**

-SRCS will continue to collaborate with local government and private agencies to provide workshops and support services regarding adult and student mental health, trauma responsiveness, suicide prevention, and resilience.

### **Tier 1: Staff Wellness**

-SRCS acknowledges the importance of staff wellness and will work to support staff through the implementation of staff resilience, consultation, and mental health support.

-Prior to school opening, and ongoing, SRCS will provide training on secondary traumatic stress and self-care.

-SRCS District and Site Administrators will promote mindfulness techniques.

-SRCS Leadership is committed to open and routine communication with staff members, encouraging self-care (e.g., saying no, accepting oneself and others, not being at 100% all the time).

-SRCS will promote the use of staff support groups to enhance staff cohesion and coping.

-District Therapists and Social Workers will be available to staff for support and referral to mental health services when appropriate.

### **Tier 1: Classroom Strategies**

-SRCS will engage staff in professional development for social-emotional learning to help teachers learn tools and strategies to lower anxiety and stress exhibited by students.

-SRCS will encourage staff to establish and implement routines for both in-person and distance learning, which include welcoming inclusion activities, engagement strategies, and an optimistic closure to class.

-SRCS will encourage staff to include stress management and mindfulness practices in classroom routines.

-SRCS is participating in the Resilience in School Environments (RISE) program to assess and improve the social-emotional wellness of students and staff.

-SRCS will encourage teachers to ask their students how they are doing and refer to counseling when students are struggling.

-SRCS leadership and staff will consider the impact of stress and trauma when assessing and supporting students.

-SRCS will connect with students and/or families to problem solve and find solutions to support students who are reluctant to turn on their cameras during distance learning.

### **Tier 2 / 3: Early and Targeted Interventions for Students and Staff**

-SRCS is committed to scaling up Social Emotional Learning to promote social-emotional competencies among students and staff.

-SRCS will continue to offer staff mental health support through SOS Counseling.

-SRCS is committed to building the capacity of student mental health services.

-Social-Emotional Wellness support will be provided by the school counselors, district school-based therapists/social workers, and community-based organizations who contract with SRCS (SAY, Lifeworks, and Humanidad).

-Mental health staff will provide services either in-person or through a telehealth platform.

# Pupil and Family Engagement and Outreach

[A description of pupil engagement and outreach, including the procedures for tiered reengagement strategies for pupils who are absent from distance learning and how the LEA will provide outreach to pupils and their parents or guardians, including in languages other than English, when pupils are not meeting compulsory education requirements, or if the LEA determines the pupil is not engaging in instruction and is at risk of learning loss.]

## Attendance Plan

In accordance with AB 98, attendance will be taken daily for each student. Absences will be recorded by the teacher of record in the Student Information System (SIS) each day as required by AB 98 and any other state or federal mandates.

For attendance-taking purposes, teachers mark students present or absent during in-person learning. Attendance for Distance Learning is met through the following synchronous and asynchronous learning and codes have been created to identify the engagement:

- evidence of participation in online activities
- completion of regular assignments
- completion of assessments
- or contacts between any SRCS staff member and a student or their parent or guardian through phone, emails, or any type of communication

A pupil who does not participate in a portion of distance learning on a school day shall be documented as absent for that school day.

Students who are absent from distance learning for more than three school days or 60 percent of the instructional days in a school week, shall be subject to a tiered re-engagement process. Weekly lists are provided to each site by the district’s SAFE Office to begin the re-engagement process and data is analyzed to discover patterns of absences, comparisons among the schools as well as within days of the week, and or differences among classrooms and grades.

## Reengagement Process

### Tier 1

- The automated messaging system will make daily phone calls for each day a student is marked absent by the teacher.
- Teachers or other SRCS employees will attempt to make contact with the student and parent.

- Attendance information will be available for parents through the Student Information Portal of the SIS.
- Teachers will create, publish, and inform students and parents of their grading practices in a hybrid or distance learning model.
- Assure assignments and grades are uploaded weekly.
- All contacts are documented in the Student Comments of the SIS

## **Tier 2**

- Students that are deemed 60% absent from the hybrid model or distance learning will be reported to the school site attendanceTeam that includes the attendance technician and administrator.
- School site may also choose to do a safe, socially distanced family home visit to better understand the issues concerning school engagement, after other strategies to reach the family have been attempted and documented
- As part of the re-engagement strategy, the school site attendance team will attempt to reach out and determine the cause for the absence. The Team will ensure that communication with the parent is working, phone dialer, emails, and internet access; determine if there is a breakdown in communication and make any corrections; and determine if the lack of participation is due to a lack of access and the site will take the necessary steps to ensure the issue is resolved.
- The parents will be informed that continued absences from distance learning could include: a conference with an administrator; development of an Attendance Plan through an Student Study Team (SST) process; through the SST process, other forms of support will also be discussed such as additional time needed, emotional or mental health supports, and potential greater academic supports and interventions; and discussion of the intervention of the student being removed from Distance Learning.
- Additionally, as a part of the response to the Universal Screener, contacts and contact attempts made with the students &/or families will be documented in the SIS, to assist with showing re-engagement efforts.

## **Tier 3**

- If the re-engagement strategies in Tiers 1 & 2 fail to improve distance learning attendance then a follow-up SST will be held,
- The school administrator may develop an Attendance Plan that includes: teacher engagement; both reward and consequences for further attendance,
- Review of the family circumstance for outside connection with health and social service;
- Meeting with District SAFE staff; and
- Make a recommendation to transitioning the student to full in-person learning If available by County Health Order



# School Nutrition

[A description of how the LEA will provide nutritionally adequate meals for all pupils, including those students who are eligible for free or reduced-price meals, when pupils are participating in both in-person instruction and distance learning, as applicable.]

SRCS will offer breakfast and lunch meals to all students each school day. Non-Congregate Grab and Go meals breakfast and lunch meals will be offered each school day the student is not scheduled to be on campus. As of 9/8/2020 40.16% of students qualify for free or reduced-price meals.

## Additional Actions to Implement the Learning Continuity Plan [additional rows and actions may be added as necessary]

Section	Description	Total Funds	Contributing
Mental Health and Social and Emotional Well-Being and Distance Learning Professional Development	The addition of Arts Integration Professional Development will support teachers in addressing distance learning, student engagement and social-emotional needs.	\$150,000	Y
Pupil Learning Loss	Include platforms that support the delivery of arts instruction and engagement during Distance Learning including WeVideo, Soundtrap, and SmartMusic.	\$80,000	Y
Distance Learning Professional Development	The addition of Professional Development for teachers in Culturally Responsive Sustaining and Humanizing (CRSH) pedagogy, CRSH for Administrators and Ethnic Studies will be provided to support teachers to increase student engagement, to help teachers see the value of the cultural wealth of all students.	\$83,150	Y
Pupil and Family Engagement Outreach	Curricular Materials for Conversations In Common Reading project to engage students and promote understanding and acceptance of diversity, especially during times of distance learning.	\$10,000	Y
Pupil Learning Loss	Art Supplies for art students to utilize at home during distance learning	\$100,000	Y

# Increased or Improved Services for Foster Youth, English Learners, and Low-Income Students

Percentage to Increase or Improve Services	Increased Apportionment Based on the Enrollment of Foster Youth, English Learners, and Low-Income students
Elementary 22.89%	Elementary \$6,433,678
Secondary 8.98%	Secondary \$8,323,438

## Required Descriptions

[For the actions being provided to an entire school, or across the entire school district or county office of education (COE), an explanation of (1) how the needs of foster youth, English learners, and low-income students were considered first, and (2) how these actions are effective in meeting the needs of these students.]

The needs of foster youth and McKinney-Vento youth were considered first when they were included in the SRCS plan to provide “support care for vulnerable populations,” which addressed the needs of Special Education Students and English Learners. The needs of homeless students were further considered when Student and Family Engagement staff was assigned to make contact with them and verify their housing status before the first week of school. The staff member reached out to each family and discussed the “support care” programs at Biella, Monroe, the Finley Center and at Salvation Army. Additionally, students were surveyed about their needs for accessing distance learning (Chromebooks and hotspots) and enrollment assistance was offered. Foster and homeless youth were also given priority status for district child care programs when they reopen.

Making early personal contact with homeless families is especially effective for those students since they relocate frequently and often need assistance at the start of the school year.

[A description of how services for foster youth, English learners, and low-income students are being increased or improved by the percentage required.]

At-risk, or vulnerable students, have a prioritization when it comes to on-site childcare, as funded through the district. This childcare offers increased services in the areas of supporting the whole child during distance learning (through nutritious snacks and Social Emotional Learning activities) and providing supplemental support to vulnerable students. Additionally, students identified in these subgroups have been prioritized for access to internet hot-spots and device distribution.



# Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan Template (2020–21)

The instructions for completing the Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan is available at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/re/lc/documents/lrngcntntyatndncpln-instructions.docx>.

Local Educational Agency (LEA) Name	Contact Name and Title	Email and Phone
Santa Rosa French American Charter School	Evelyn Anderson Principal Dr. Diann Kitamura Superintendent	<a href="mailto:dkitamura@srcs.k12.ca.us">dkitamura@srcs.k12.ca.us</a> 707-890-3800 x80101

## General Information

[A description of the impact the COVID-19 pandemic has had on the LEA and its community.]

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and under the guidance of the Sonoma County Health Department, the Sonoma County Office of Education, and the Office of the California Governor Gavin Newsom, Santa Rosa City Schools (SRCS) suspended in-person instruction and transitioned to distance learning on March 26, 2020. From that date through the end of the 2019-20 academic year, all instruction was delivered through a distance learning model where students participated in learning activities at home, with teachers delivering instruction through mostly digital platforms. The District distributed Chromebooks to students so that they could participate in distance learning and placed hotspots in areas where internet connectivity was insufficient to support online learning.

With an understanding that distance learning presented challenges to families and that students received differing levels of support at home, the District adjusted the grade reporting practices for the last grading period of the year. Before the school year ended, the District conducted a survey of all families and staff to understand better their situations and preferences for 2020-21 teaching and learning. On June 3, 2020, the District held a Special Board Meeting video conference to solicit further input from families and staff. In May, the District began to convene an Executive Committee and several subcommittees to begin to make recommendations for the development of the 2020-21 Return to School Plan. The Executive Committee and subcommittees worked throughout the summer to develop a plan while continuing to seek updated feedback from our constituents through surveys and Zoom meetings.

Due to the suspension of in-person learning, the regular rhythm and progression of student learning was interrupted across all grade levels and content areas. There were no universal screeners in place to monitor student progress remotely. Distance learning did not replicate the

traditional classroom learning experience, despite our educators’ best efforts during a sudden transition. The District recognized the challenges for parents and guardians who were helping their children with distance learning while also managing their own work responsibilities. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many SRCS families experienced stress due to lost income or lost jobs and, in some cases, were displaced from their housing. Many families also experienced food insecurity and benefited from the District’s “grab and go” meal program. The shift to distance learning amid shelter-at-home guidance also impacted students’ social wellbeing, emotional wellness, and physical health. Despite the diligent efforts of school staff to maintain student-school connections, the social isolation at home and lack of in-class interactions were hard for students and families. Families also expressed concerns about increased screen time for their children and how it might affect their stress levels and physical wellbeing.

Santa Rosa City Schools had planned to begin the 2020-21 school year with a hybrid learning model and two distance learning choices for families. However, the District recognized the need for flexibility and the ability to pivot based on guidance from the County Health Office. When Sonoma County was returned to the state’s COVID-19 watchlist per the Governor’s orders and public health guidance, the SRCS Board of Education resolved on July 22, 2020 to launch the new school year fully remotely, with a return to in-person learning when public health guidelines allow. Since making this decision, SRCS has continued to seek input from the community and respond to their concerns through public feedback at Board meetings and scheduled Q&A forums for family and staff.

**The state-wide closure of public schools that prevented in-person instruction at SRFACS has had negative impacts on our program. While keeping students and staff safe, the requirement to do only distance learning presents particular challenges to a language immersion school. Immersive language instruction normally involves physically demonstrating actions and the use of many visual cues. Those opportunities are missing in distance learning. In addition, dual-language immersion requires time spent in an environment rich in the languages that promotes conversation. An appropriate immersive language environment is severely curtailed in distance learning. Overall, the amount of time available for instruction is significantly reduced in distance learning. The staff and school community are doing our best to meet these unique challenges.**

## Stakeholder Engagement

[A description of the efforts made to solicit stakeholder feedback.]

**SRFACS strongly encourages open communication with parents, students, teachers and all staff. The administrator and staff regularly receive numerous emails and phone calls from parents to which they promptly respond. All stakeholders were invited to review and discuss the Learning Continuity Plan at the August School Advisory Board (SAB) meeting through an invitation in Parent Square, the SRFACS app, and the SRFACS web site. Announcing the meeting agenda in Parent Square allowed for announcements to be received in the languages of recipient's choice. The Learning Continuity Plan was presented to the 15 attendees, a mixture of staff and parents. All were encouraged to provide feedback at the meeting and in follow-up by phone call or email. The Learning Continuity Plan will be presented at the Parent Association Foundation (PAF) meeting on September 14th and feedback will be solicited from all stakeholders. An English Learner Advisory Committee (ELAC) meeting will be held by Zoom on September 17th to solicit recommendations and comments from the English Learner parent community. The Plan will be presented**

**at the September 16th SRCS School Board meeting. The Learning Continuity Plan and strategies are developed in response to stakeholder inputs, including ongoing discussions of the previous year.**

Stakeholder engagement has been and continues to be integral to our planning and development as we navigate the impact of COVID-19 on our students, families, and staff. SRCS is fortunate to have an engaged community that has provided input and asked questions since we transitioned to distance learning on March 26, 2020. We used this input to create a Return to School Plan that is grounded in public health and science, educational best practices, and wellness practices that promote the mental and physical health of our community.

Prior to the close of the 2019-20 school year, the District surveyed our families and staff to gather data on people's situations, distance learning, and return-to-school models, with over 2,400 responses. The June 3rd Special Board Meeting video conference to seek further input from families and staff was attended by over 450 people. In May, the District convened an Executive Committee and several subcommittees to begin the process for developing the 2020-21 Return to School Plan.

As SRCS prepared to return to school remotely, the District continued to seek staff and community input--as well as address questions—through public hearings at Board meetings and through Q&A Webinars. The Board meetings were held on: July 8<sup>th</sup>, July 22<sup>nd</sup>, Aug. 12<sup>th</sup>, and Aug. 26<sup>th</sup>.

The District values continued input from our community and will work to review and integrate additional feedback into our planning as we move forward in an extremely dynamic situation that requires our collective best thinking and practices.

[A description of the options provided for remote participation in public meetings and public hearings.]

**SRFACS stakeholders were provided remote participation in the SAB meeting via Zoom, participation in the ELAC meeting via Zoom, and participation in the PAF meeting via Zoom. Participation was open to all stakeholders and open discussion was encouraged..**

SRCS Board meetings were open to the public via Facebook and then Zoom due to the shelter-at-home order. The meetings were open and accessible for all via remote participation. Public hearings are held at our regularly scheduled and agendaized Board meetings. The Friday before each Board meeting, the agenda is posted at the District Office and on the District website. Anyone wishing to speak on an item related to remote learning was given notice in these postings, with bilingual directions on how the process works.

[A summary of the feedback provided by specific stakeholder groups.]

**ELAC has emphasized the need for increased ELL support at SRFACS, with or without the pandemic and distance learning. Teaching staff has emphasized a need for dialogue in French and English to reinforce language learning, especially in a new language. Staff and ELAC have raised concerns regarding the fact that the opportunity gap has grown significantly during the pandemic and the resulting distance learning. Low-income students are not able to access the supplemental resources that other families are providing to their children. Stakeholders see a critical need to reduce the gap through additional resources during**

**distance learning and afterward. Teachers and parents are voicing serious concern about the social-emotional impact of isolation and the stresses of the pandemic are having on students.**

### **Safety**

For all stakeholders responding to SRCS surveys, safety was paramount to any return to school, whether it be full-time in-person learning or a hybrid model. All family responses were predicated on the basis that SRCS would adhere to all COVID-19 safety guidelines to keep children safe, as stated in the survey questions being asked.

### **Supporting Students Socially, Emotionally, and Academically**

Through public forums such as Q&A Webinars and Board meetings, families consistently expressed concerns about their children's social and academic progress due to the March 26, 2020 suspension of in-person learning. As many families experienced economic loss, job loss, and food insecurity due to the pandemic, additional stress has been placed on all family members. During the spring distance learning, many students also mourned the loss of in-person learning and the social and emotional fulfillment it brings through daily peer interactions, with many struggling with the new-found isolation under shelter-at-home orders. All of this was no doubt compounded by Sonoma County's recent fires and our ongoing recovery from this trauma.

The SRTA survey results showed that teachers have great concern for students as they return to school, recognizing that they will need a lot of academic and social and emotional support. Thirty-four percent of teachers responding desired expanded Tier 2 program support for larger quantities of qualifying students, while 44% of responses indicated a need for additional health and human services professionals. Nearly half of those responding to the SRTA survey (49%), suggested training for families to increase empowerment on health and safety protocols and procedures.

Through public forums such as Q&A Webinars and Board meetings, families expressed concerns about their children's learning progress and possible learning loss due to the suspension of in-person during the spring. With the abrupt shift to distance learning, many felt underprepared to support their children's remote learning and some children had difficulty adjusting to distance learning.

The SRTA survey results indicated that the majority of those responding were concerned about student engagement (75%) and student accountability (71%). Additionally, these survey results identified several areas of interest for student learning when students returned to school in person or online:

60% Academic counseling, support, and intervention classes for students needing academic assistance

46% Modifications to ease transition back to in-person learning

76% Technology and curriculum support for newly introduced or mandated learning platforms

66% Elimination of all non-mandated high stakes testing to minimize encroachment into active instructional time

74% Plan for following up with non-engaged students

### **Professional Development and Collaboration**

In the year-end SRCS survey, teachers were asked to rate their ability to use certain technology tools. The majority of responding teachers felt comfortable or very comfortable using video conferencing tools (75%), Google Classroom (68%), and Google Applications (62%). In contrast, they stated that they needed support or would like some support with Seesaw (76%), screencasting tools (63%), and Illuminate Online Assessments (62%).

In the SRTA survey, teachers agreed or strongly agreed they had a need for two types of professional development: “one and done” (43%) and ongoing sessions (52%). In addition to professional development, teachers overwhelmingly stated a desire for collaboration with peers at the site-level (75%) and with job-alike colleagues in the District (59%). Teachers also expressed a desire to provide instruction more collaboratively through team models, with 36% of respondents wanting to build partnerships and 48% wanting to build a team. Directly related to this desire for collaboration and team models, teachers suggested that this might be the time to begin to explore and implement more Project-based Learning (PBL) as we analyze successful student engagement models of instruction (57% responded maybe and 18% affirmatively).

Teachers were also asked to identify their 2020-21 professional development priorities, with the following topics among those deemed important or very important:

79% Best practices for online teaching

77% Supporting equal access to learning for all students

74% Motivating students to participate in distance learning

88% Time to prepare for distance learning through collaboration with colleagues

85% Delivering efficient and effective instruction through the hybrid model

71% Expectations for Special Education case managers

In analyzing the stakeholder data, Santa Rosa City Schools identified six dominant themes that informed the development of the Return to School Plan and The Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan: Connection; Instruction; Safety; Technology; Communication; and Professional Development.

[A description of the aspects of the Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan that were influenced by specific stakeholder input.]

All aspects of this plan were directly influenced and made better by participating stakeholders. Particular aspects of the SRFACS plan include:



Increased support for English Language Learners through the use of the TOSA to support ELD instruction and tutoring by English Language Arts teachers to recapture some of the learning loss experienced by this student sub-group.

Increased French Language support to reduce the learning gap through the use of tutoring by French teachers to all grade levels with particular focus on students with special needs, ELL, low-income, and other vulnerable students.

Increased software and website-based tools to mitigate learning loss especially among low-income students.

Increased social-emotional support through counseling services.

SRFACS specific needs align with the District priorities that are aligned with each of the six themes identified through the SRCS analysis of survey and meeting feedback:

### **Connection**

- Social-emotional wellness
- Connection to community partnership
- Relationship-building
- Back-to-school transitions

### **Instruction**

- Clear expectations
- Essential standards
- Flexible instructional strategies
- Assessment to guide instruction
- Access to support and intervention

### **Safety**

- Adherence to County Health guidelines
- Create safety protocols and systems
- COVID-19 training for students, parents, and staff
- Point-person for COVID-related topics

### **Technology**

- Technology access for all students
- Technology support for students and families
- Consistency with platforms and apps

## **Communication**

- Frequent, timely, and centralized communication
- Consistency
- Use of one platform by staff and teacher to communicate with students and parents

## **Professional Development**

- Need for learning, planning, and collaborating
- Collaboration time to design curriculum together (horizontally, vertically, and district-wide)
- In-person training for families

The wide range of input and requests from stakeholders also inspired the return-to-school working committee to identify these overarching principles that guided the decision-making process for this plan.

- Safeguard the health and safety of students and staff
- Comply with State, County Health Department, and Centers for Disease Control guidelines
- Consider feedback from diverse and multiple sources
- Ensure equitable access to teaching and learning (prioritize most vulnerable students, individualized student check-ins, consistent online experiences)
- Leverage resources to address achievement and opportunity gaps
- Adhere to established learning plans while remaining flexible
- Use an inclusive and fair decision-making process to revise established plans
- Leverage community resources to enhance planning
- Foster student learning and progress
- Reduce negative or unintended consequences
- Maintain positive learning and working environments

# **Continuity of Learning**

## **In-Person Instructional Offerings**

[A description of the actions the LEA will take to offer classroom-based instruction whenever possible, particularly for students who have experienced significant learning loss due to school closures in the 2019–2020 school year or are at a greater risk of experiencing learning loss due to future school closures.]

**Immersive language instruction is seriously impacted by the loss of in-person instruction. Student sub-groups are experiencing significant learning loss as a result of distance learning. Providing in-person instruction as soon as it is safe to do so will have a positive impact on these students. SRFACS submitted a list of students for whom distance learning presents greater risks of learning loss due to school closures including ELLs and Special Education students. These students will have a priority for in-person learning opportunities when it becomes possible. SRFACS currently has no counseling or social-emotional services. An increase of any services to one or two days per week will materially mitigate the impact on learning due to social-emotional and mental health issues.**

Given the uncertainty of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, in-person instruction may not be immediately allowable under state and local health orders. However, SRCS has recognized the need to be prepared to offer in-person instruction when possible. The State provided a waiver process to allow for in-person instruction for students in need

SRCS had planned to begin the 2020-21 school year by offering three learning model options to students and families, with the understanding that the dynamic COVID-19 situation may make it necessary to pivot:

**1. Hybrid Model (2 days at school, 3 days at home)**

- Students assigned to one of the two cohorts (A or B) attending school either Monday and Tuesday **OR** Thursday and Friday.
- On the three days, they would not be in school, they would learn from home (or child care).
- On Wednesdays, all students would have a virtual check-in with their teacher or other support staff and the schools would be cleaned between cohorts.
- Teachers would be focusing on the essential standards of the California Standards and assessing students regularly to determine if any academic intervention is needed.
- Keep family members in the same cohort so they would be attending school on the same days.

**2. Distance Learning Model (5 days at home)**

- All teaching would be done virtually (on a computer/Chromebook) and class assignments would be provided via a district-wide common online platform.
- Students would have virtual classes with their teachers every day except for Wednesdays when they would have a virtual check-in with their teacher or other support staff.

**3. Learning House Model (5 days at home)**

- Would create a community of more than 100 learners from multiple school sites.
- Students would work with a small group of educators and build an online community.
- Students would build on their own strengths with real-world projects and integration of core subjects and electives.
- Intervention and enrichment would be embedded into students' process of learning.

When Sonoma County was returned to the state's COVID-19 watchlist per the Governor's orders and public health guidance, the SRCS Board of Education resolved on July 22, 2020 to launch the new school year fully remotely, following guidelines for Distance Learning Model #2 where students engage in remote learning 5 days per week.

When the District is given Public Health clearance to resume in-person learning, we will follow public health guidance.

**Actions Related to In-Person Instructional Offerings [additional rows and actions may be added as necessary]**

Description	Total Funds	Contributing
English language and Math tutoring	\$15,000	Y
French language tutoring	\$25,000	Y
Mental health and social-emotional counseling	\$40,000	Y

**Distance Learning Program**

**Continuity of Instruction**

[A description of how the LEA will provide continuity of instruction during the school year to ensure pupils have access to a full curriculum of substantially similar quality regardless of the method of delivery, including the LEA's plan for curriculum and instructional resources that will ensure instructional continuity for pupils if a transition between in-person instruction and distance learning is necessary.]

**All teaching is being done virtually and course work is being done via Google Suites and Seesaw. All students receive standards-based instruction every day except for Wednesdays when they have a virtual check-in. Instruction is provided by fully-credentialed teaching staff following the harmonized curriculum as described in the school's Charter. Students will engage virtually in the same quality of teacher instruction. The Learning Continuity Plan addresses the need for increased and improved on-line tools to mitigate learning loss, especially in low-income, English language learners and students with special needs.**

In its work to prepare for the return to school, the District—through the work of the Return to School committees and subcommittees—identified and discussed models of instruction that would be most effective and flexible in the face of challenges due to COVID-19. Ultimately, three models emerged from the committees and negotiations: Hybrid, Distance Learning, and Learning House. All three would accommodate the social distancing requirements of Sonoma County Health Orders, California Department of Education Guidelines, and the Sonoma County Road Map to Safe Reopening.

Distance Learning is designed to provide a traditional education similar to in-person learning. The difference is all teaching will be done virtually and course work will be provided via Google Classroom and Seesaw. Students will be taught virtually every day except for Wednesdays when they will have a virtual check-in.

**Access to Devices and Connectivity**

[A description of how the LEA will ensure access to devices and connectivity for all pupils to support distance learning.]

**Chrome books are being distributed to all SRFACS students to ensure 1:1 technology access. A number of SRFACS students lack Internet access. The school has a wait list for hot spots that will be provided as they become available for students who lack internet access.**

Santa Rosa City Schools will work to ensure equitable access to education for all students by providing adequate access to connectivity and technological devices to participate in the educational program and to complete assigned work. We will ensure that all students have access to devices and Wi-Fi.

The District recognized that many of the existing student Chromebooks were reaching obsolescence and developed a plan for cyclical replacement of Chromebooks. All students will be offered a device. Families that choose not to use a school device will need to explicitly state that their child has a device.

Families will receive information from their site principal. Teachers who expressed need will also be provided new laptops to ensure connectivity and support for students through distance learning. All staff will have access to their classrooms and school sites to ensure resources and connectivity as needed.

## **Pupil Participation and Progress**

[A description of how the LEA will assess pupil progress through live contacts and synchronous instructional minutes, and a description of how the LEA will measure participation and time value of pupil work.]

Attendance: The student is expected to check the teacher's distance learning platform (e.g., Google Classroom, Seesaw) and District Gmail and complete assignments. Students will have opportunities to check in with the teacher during specified times.

There are multiple ways to assess student progress and understanding of grade and subject level content. These may include content exams, projects, presentations, and performance tasks, among other things. Performance tasks may be described as multi-step academic exercises that allow students to demonstrate knowledge and content application, synthesis, creativity, etc., with content knowledge in a real and/or imagined context. Performance tasks are often accompanied by rubrics that allow for levels of performance and subtle differences in assessment feedback to students.

Assessments will be formative whenever possible. Assignments are required through the class platform of either Google classroom or Seesaw. Students will be graded in alignment with standards. Students are expected to attend virtual classroom daily and virtual check-in on Wednesdays.

In hybrid, distance learning, and the Learning House, certain types of assessments such as performance tasks may be used more than others. Assessments may serve both formative and summative purposes, providing teachers the necessary information to make instructional decisions and supporting students in receiving feedback to adjust the demonstration of learning.

# Distance Learning Professional Development

[A description of the professional development and resources that will be provided to staff to support the distance learning program, including technological support.]

Santa Rosa City Schools is committed to supporting the professional growth of its staff, both certificated and classified. In response to the County’s shelter-at-home order, a menu of professional development classes was offered virtually on Monday, April 13, 2020, focused on tools and strategies to support a distance learning model of instruction.

As we planned for return to school in August, the District recognized the need for additional, ongoing training and collaboration focused on highly effective tools, skills, and strategies for meeting the diverse needs of our students. To ensure equitable learning and social and emotional outcomes for all students during this new way of teaching and learning, as well as the expectation of AB 98, all staff are expected to attend professional development.

Considering District and SRTA survey data, as well as input from the various stakeholder committees, the following professional development topics and formats have been considered. This list is not exhaustive but rather reflects current needs and wants expressed by staff in light of these new models of instruction, hybrid and distance learning.

**Instruction:** essential standards; content specific; best practices for distance learning; strategies to motivate students in a distance learning environment; use of Newsela and Learning A-Z to support differentiation; effective lesson design for distance learning; Culturally, Responsively, Sustaining and Humanizing Education (CRSH); strategies for engagement in district curriculum in a hybrid/distance learning format (e.g., *Everyday Math*, *Wonders*, etc.); flipped classroom; Project Based Learning; formative assessment; diagnostic tools such as MAP, Inspect and Let’s Go Learn.

**Technology:** Google Classroom and Google Apps; screencasting tools; Zoom; Seesaw; Class Dojo; ParentSquare; creating engaging videos for online teaching and learning; class webpage development; Acellus; and other applications to enhance distance learning

**Social Emotional Wellness and Mental Health:** Trauma-informed care; self-care; psychological First Aid; class meetings; classroom community building; restorative practices; managing social media consumption; safety protocols and precautions; Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports (PBIS); addressing current events through grade level appropriate conversations; encouraging and supporting student voice and advocacy.

**Distance Learning Plans:** Distance learning plans for each individual student will provide an explanation of how the student’s IEP will be executed in that model of instruction. Because a distance learning instructional model is different than an in-person instructional model there will be obvious variations in how the IEP will be executed.

## Staff Roles and Responsibilities

[A description of the new roles and responsibilities of affected staff as a result of COVID-19.]

**Staff are responsible for providing synchronous and asynchronous instruction. Teachers have learned and are using on-line platforms and are providing live instruction through video-conferencing. Teachers are responsible for providing substantial live**

interaction with students daily including teacher check-in, support during independent student work time, focus on core subjects, and office hours. Teachers are devoting substantial time to creating engaging virtual lessons as well as asynchronous instruction and assignments. All staff are learning new systems of communication and reporting as well as health protocols. The staff has risen to the occasion admirably.

## Supports for Pupils with Unique Needs

[A description of the additional supports the LEA will provide during distance learning to assist pupils with unique needs, including English learners, pupils with exceptional needs served across the full continuum of placements, pupils in foster care, and pupils who are experiencing homelessness.]

### English Learners

English Language Development (ELD) will be provided in small groups through the American TOSA. The TOSA will develop an ELD program to ensure English learners meet appropriate language acquisition proficiency levels, ensuring academic goals are met as determined by English Language Proficiency Assessment for California (ELPAC) and the academic expectations of Santa Rosa City Schools. Classroom teachers use their Office Hours to support students in small groups and individually. To every extent possible, students with exceptional needs shall have the elements in their Individualized Education Program (IEP) met. This could include both in-person whenever possible and distance learning settings. Students' Case Manager will be required to meet with families to determine which, if any, services need to be adjusted. Throughout distance learning, all elements of the Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) must be met. Service providers such as Speech and Language or Counseling services must continue to provide services.

For Distance Learning, the following guidelines are in place to ensure that EL students are served through remote teaching and learning:

Synchronous Designated ELD: live virtual lessons/meetings; phone calls; small group lessons; by proficiency levels with scaffolds; in mixed level groups for fluency building; teacher feedback and support as needed

Asynchronous Designated ELD: previously recorded lessons and videos; phone and text messages; ELD assignments/projects using approved ELD curriculum; paper and pencil activities; reading logs and journals; goal setting and reflection

### Foster and Homeless Youth

SRCS is committed to supporting the foster and homeless youth in the district in collaboration with the Sonoma County Office of Education. The District recognizes that additional challenges may occur for this population during the COVID-19 pandemic and is committed to providing the necessary support for their physical, emotional and academic health. This support takes the form of collaboration with students and families, school and district staff, and other county agencies in order to remove barriers to educational access and expand educational



opportunities. Students identified as foster youth are supported by the Supporting Our Language Learners (SOLL) counselors in addition to a comprehensive school counselor.

By removing barriers that occur due to frequent changes in home placement, SRCS helps to ensure that foster and homeless youth can benefit from uninterrupted educational access. AB 175 (Foster Youth Bill of Rights) provides protections for this vulnerable population of students. School districts are also responsible for ensuring that youth who are experiencing homelessness have full access to educational programs in accordance with the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

All Sonoma County students have the right to enroll in and attend school, even when housing becomes uncertain. If a child lacks “fixed, regular, and adequate housing,” federal and state laws require immediate school enrollment for that child – even without proof of residency or medical, school, or legal guardianship records.

McKinney-Vento and Foster Youth students have priority access to the district provided Chromebooks and hotspots during Distance Learning. Additionally, SRCS students housed in the Catholic Charities Family Shelter in Santa Rosa were also provided with headphones. SRCS Child Nutrition Services is also supporting students housed in the Catholic Charities Family Shelter by delivering meals.

### **Special Education**

To every extent possible, students with exceptional needs shall have the elements in their Individualized Education Program (IEP) met. This could include both in-person and distance learning settings. Students’ Case Managers will be required to meet with families to determine which, if any, services need to be adjusted.

During this time, regardless of the model, all elements of the Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) must be met. Service providers such as Speech and Language or Counseling services must continue to provide services, either through online services or in-person as developed in the IEP.

However, distance learning is not accessible to many students with exceptional needs. Many populations cannot have their developmental, educational, health and other needs met in an online environment.

Students with mild to moderate disabilities may benefit from hybrid models that include some time in-person and some time in the distance learning model depending on their age. These decisions will be made in consultation with the IEP Team. The IEP is the roadmap for each student with a disability, and in these challenging and evolving times including COVID-19 restrictions, it is critical that the IEP team meets and works with the family to jointly determine what is working for each student in distance learning and a hybrid environment as well as what accommodations and modality of learning allows the greatest access.

To support the student’s access to the general education classroom within the hybrid and distance learning models, and to meet the required elements of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), SRCS will:

- provide services in the IEP in the least restrictive setting
- meet current service obligations of all IEPs, or modify current IEPs to meet the needs of any changes in service
- all related Service Providers, School Psychologists, Speech and Language Pathologists, Adapted Physical Education, and School Nurses shall provide services to the students they are assigned as outlined in each student’s IEP

**Distance learning plans for each individual student will provide an explanation of how the student's IEP will be executed in that model of instruction. Because a distance learning instructional model is different from an in-person instructional model there will be obvious variations in how the IEP will be executed.**

If families are experiencing any concerns with the distance learning or hybrid model, Case Managers and SRCS Program Managers are available to support students.

**Advanced Learner Program and Services (ALPS)**

The Teacher on Special Assignment (TOSA) for ALPS will offer a series of enrichment classes for 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> graders once per week by grade level. Students will have the opportunity to identify projects of interest as they learn about the Icons of Depth and Complexity and concept-based learning. Each session will be 8 weeks long and will involve synchronous and asynchronous teaching and learning. Each session is limited to 20 students maximum.

**Actions Related to the Distance Learning Program [additional rows and actions may be added as necessary]**

Description	Total Funds	Contributing
Lalilo software	\$3,000	Y
ALEKS	\$700	Y
iXL	\$2800	Y
Newsela	\$3800	Y
Lexia	\$22,000	Y
SeeSaw	\$1,623	Y
Teacher laptops	\$20,000	Y
Student Chromebooks	\$17,000	Y
L'Ecole des Loisirs reading resources	\$29,000	Y

**Pupil Learning Loss**

[A description of how the LEA will address pupil learning loss that results from COVID-19 during the 2019–2020 and 2020–21 school years, including how the LEA will assess pupils to measure learning status, particularly in the areas of English language arts, English language development, and mathematics.]

**SRFACS recognizes that the shelter-in-place orders of March 2020 and the current school closure has resulted in significant learning loss for most students. Formal assessments will include the French national evaluations. Teachers will consider**

information provided by the previous grade's teachers at the end of the 2019-2020 school year that identified areas of the curriculum that were not covered due to the shelter-in-place order.

**SRFACS is a pilot school for the MAP assessment and learning program that will provide information regarding learning loss and will inform instructional decisions. Grade-specific assessments such as CPM end of trimester assessments can be administered remotely and done independently by students will provide additional information.**

### **State-mandated Testing**

- Grades 3-8, 11: SBAC ELA and Math
- Grades 5 and 8, 11: CA Science Test (CAST)
- Grades 5, 7, and 9: California Physical Fitness Test
- K-12: English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC) administered to qualifying students in accordance with the law

## **Pupil Learning Loss Strategies**

[A description of the actions and strategies the LEA will use to address learning loss and accelerate learning progress for pupils, as needed, including how these strategies differ for pupils who are English learners; low-income; foster youth; pupils with exceptional needs; and pupils experiencing homelessness.]

**Learning at SRFACS is in the context of an interconnected school community. Initial student work for the 2020-2021 school year is focused on establishing relationships through the core subjects of French, English, and math. Classroom assignments provide formative assessments. Students who have experienced greater loss will receive extra support through ELD instruction, teacher office hours, and tutoring. Focused attention will be placed on students who are English learners, low-income, foster youth, have exceptional needs, or are experiencing homelessness.**

The key strategies to address learning loss include:

- address students' social and emotional wellbeing first
- use a comprehensive approach to formative assessments
- focus on essential standards (endurance, leverage, and readiness)
- target student skills individually to address rather than reteaching prior year content to the whole class
- address needs for equitable access for learning
- communicate with families clearly and frequently about student progress

The district will provide professional development and support for teachers and staff during the 2020-21 school year to address essential standards, learning loss and accelerate learning progress in a distance learning model to improve Tier 1 instruction. Professional Development will also focus on student engagement and feedback as we explore Best Practices for Distance Learning. Teachers will engage in thinking critically about increasing student engagement in distance learning.

## Effectiveness of Implemented Pupil Learning Loss Strategies

[A description of how the effectiveness of the services or supports provided to address learning loss will be measured.]

Teachers will continually monitor formative assessments throughout the school year. Formal assessments will provide measurements of student learning at particular points of the schools year. Formal assessments may include the French Evaluations Nationales, SBAC, and ELPAC.

Teachers, site administrators and district administration will review data on a regular basis (each trimester and quarter) to determine if the learning loss strategies are showing student improvement on formative assessments, benchmark assessments, surveys, and student engagement. At the elementary level, the data for many assessments is entered in our data and assessment platform, Illuminate, making it easy to monitor students' progress on multiple assessments. Teachers can also administer short online assessments in Illuminate for easy grading and monitoring.

Should the pupil learning loss strategies used not prove to be effective for a student, teachers will analyze why and attempt to use different strategies to address student learning needs. The District encourages teachers to use common planning time to discuss common assessments they may be administering in order to calibrate scoring by reviewing some student work together. This process often leads to informative discussions about effective lessons and strategies that may benefit a larger student group.

Should a student not demonstrate expected academic growth after many attempts at remedying learning loss, the teacher may want to seek advice from site colleagues and/or the site's Student Success Team by reviewing different Tiers of support strategies.

The District will provide ongoing Professional Development about formative assessments, creating performance tasks, and how to motivate and engage students in distance learning.

## Actions to Address Pupil Learning Loss [additional rows and actions may be added as necessary]

Description	Total Funds	Contributing	
Mental Health and Social and Emotional Well-Being and Distance Learning Professional Development	The addition of Arts Integration Professional Development will support teachers in addressing distance learning, student engagement and social-emotional needs.	\$150,000	Y
Pupil Learning Loss	Include platforms that support the delivery of arts instruction and engagement during Distance Learning including WeVideo, Soundtrap, and SmartMusic.	\$80,000	Y
Distance Learning Professional Development	The addition of Professional Development for teachers in Culturally Responsive Sustaining and Humanizing (CRSH) pedagogy, CRSH for	\$83,150	Y

	Administrators and Ethnic Studies will be provided to support teachers to increase student engagement, to help teachers see the value of the cultural wealth of all students.		
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## Mental Health and Social and Emotional Well-Being

[A description of how the LEA will monitor and support mental health and social and emotional well-being of pupils and staff during the school year, including the professional development and resources that will be provided to pupils and staff to address trauma and other impacts of COVID-19 on the school community.]

**The pandemic and the necessity that all students remain in distance learning is causing social-emotional hardship on many students, especially our most vulnerable students. SRFACS aims to ensure that a multi-tiered system of support (MTSS) is in operation for all areas of student support: Academics, Attendance, Student Wellness, and Student Behaviors. The school will use MTSS tiered structures for monitoring and developing interventions and supports for students and families. The school and district are providing structures for teacher-to-student and -family communications. SRFACS is participating in the district-wide Needs Assessment Survey. In order to complete the Needs Assessment we will allocate the time of a TOSA and will use a substitute counselor. Ongoing use of the counselor will be instrumental to meeting the mental health needs of our students. A list of vulnerable students is being provided to the district to support students with special needs, English language learners and students in vulnerable living situations.**

Through the Multi-Tier System of Support (MTSS) structure, we support both the development of academic and social-emotional and behavioral well-being (or mental health). MTSS supports district-wide coordination of a continuum of support making sure that all students' needs are identified.

### **Tier 1: Universal Supports - Whole School Safety and Prevention Plan**

- SRCS has developed a system to connect with students and families to promote attendance.
- SRCS school sites will consider strategies to become a trauma-responsive school system to support the school community.
- SRCS will engage with students and families using culturally responsive techniques.
- SRCS is committed to using universal screening to identify the social-emotional needs of students.
- SRCS will use professional development time to increase trauma knowledge and skills.
- SRCS will engage staff in professional development about mental health de-stigmatization.
- SRCS will include information about mental health and wellness resources on the district and school websites and in communication with families.

-SRCS will have a team at each site that will conduct a needs assessment in the form of a survey to check on the technology, food & shelter, academic, pandemic resiliency and other concerns. At the elementary level parents will be surveyed, and in secondary students complete their own survey. The response data will be analyzed and the site level Tier 2 teams will respond to and document the support offered in response to the needs indicated by students and families in the surveys.

### **Tier 1: Community and Family Wellness**

-SRCS will continue to collaborate with local government and private agencies to provide workshops and support services regarding adult and student mental health, trauma responsiveness, suicide prevention, and resilience.

### **Tier 1: Staff Wellness**

-SRCS acknowledges the importance of staff wellness and will work to support staff through the implementation of staff resilience, consultation, and mental health support.

-Prior to school opening, and ongoing, SRCS will provide training on secondary traumatic stress and self-care.

-SRCS District and Site Administrators will promote mindfulness techniques and staff social supports.

-SRCS Leadership is committed to open and routine communication with staff members, encouraging self-care (e.g., saying no, accepting oneself and others, not being at 100% all the time).

-SRCS will promote the use of staff support groups to enhance staff cohesion and coping.

-District Therapists and Social Workers will be available to staff for support and referral to mental health services when appropriate.

### **Tier 1: Classroom Strategies**

-SRCS will engage staff in professional development for social-emotional learning to help teachers learn tools and strategies to lower anxiety and stress exhibited by students.

-SRCS will encourage staff to establish and implement routines for both in-person and distance learning, which include welcoming inclusion activities, engagement strategies, and an optimistic closure to class.

-SRCS will encourage staff to include stress management and mindfulness practices in classroom routines.

-SRCS will encourage teachers to ask their students how they are doing and refer to counseling when students are struggling when it becomes available at SRFACS.

-SRCS leadership and staff will consider the impact of stress and trauma when assessing and supporting students.

-SRCS will connect with students and/or families to problem solve and find solutions to support students who are reluctant to turn on their cameras during distance learning.

### **Tier 2 / 3: Early and Targeted Interventions for Students and Staff**

-SRCS is committed to scaling up Social Emotional Learning to promote social-emotional competencies among students and staff.

--SRCS is committed to building the capacity of student mental health services.

--Mental health resources will be consistent across the district and district-wide mental health providers should be coordinating services. (School Psychologists, School Counselors, School-Based Clinicians, and School-Based Therapists)

# Pupil and Family Engagement and Outreach

[A description of pupil engagement and outreach, including the procedures for tiered reengagement strategies for pupils who are absent from distance learning and how the LEA will provide outreach to pupils and their parents or guardians, including in languages other than English, when pupils are not meeting compulsory education requirements, or if the LEA determines the pupil is not engaging in instruction and is at risk of learning loss.]

**Student attendance is taken daily by classroom teachers; classroom teachers provide the first line of communication with students and their families. Every reported absence is followed by a phone call from school personnel to determine the reason for the absence. Particular concern is placed on students who are not able to access class because of technical difficulties. Parent-Teacher conferences gave an opportunity to check on student access to the internet and devices. Interpretation was available for conferences. Communications through Parent Square are received in the selected language. The Family Engagement Coordinator focuses on communication with Spanish-speaking families.**

## **Attendance Plan**

In accordance with AB 98, attendance will be taken daily for each student. Absences will be recorded by the teacher of record in the Student Information System (SIS) each day as required by AB 98 and any other state or federal mandates.

For attendance-taking purposes, teachers mark students present or absent during in-person learning. Attendance for Distance Learning is met through the following synchronous and asynchronous learning and codes have been created to identify the engagement:

- evidence of participation in online activities
- completion of regular assignments
- completion of assessments
- or contacts between any SRCS staff member and a student or their parent or guardian through phone, emails, or any type of communication

A pupil who does not participate in a portion of distance learning on a school day shall be documented as absent for that school day.

Students who are absent from distance learning for more than three school days or 60 percent of the instructional days in a school week, shall be subject to a tiered re-engagement process. Weekly lists are provided to each site by the district's SAFE Office to begin the re-engagement process and data is analyzed to discover patterns of absences, comparisons among the schools as well as within days of the week, and or differences among classrooms and grades.

## **Re Engagement Process**



### **Tier 1**

- The site Attendance Team makes daily phone calls for each day a student is marked absent by the teacher.
- Teachers or other SRCS employees attempt to make contact with the student and parent.
- Attendance information will be available for parents through the Student Information Portal of the SIS.
- Teachers will create, publish, and inform students and parents of their grading practices in a hybrid or distance learning model.
- Assure assignments and grades are uploaded weekly.
- All contacts are documented in the Student Comments of the SIS

### **Tier 2**

- Students that are deemed 60% absent from the hybrid model or distance learning will be reported to the school site attendanceTeam that includes the attendance technician and administrator.
- School site may also choose to do a family home visit to better understand the issues concerning school engagement.
- As part of the re-engagement strategy, the school site attendance team will attempt to reach out and determine the cause for the absence. The Team will ensure that communication with the parent is working, phone dialer, emails, and internet access; determine if there is a breakdown in communication and make any corrections; and determine if the lack of participation is due to a lack of access and the site will take the necessary steps to ensure the issue is resolved.
- The parents will be informed that continued absences from distance learning could include: a conference with an administrator; development of an Attendance Plan through an Student Study Team (SST) process; through the SST process, other forms of support will also be discussed such as additional time needed, emotional or mental health supports, and potential greater academic supports and interventions; and discussion of the intervention of the student being removed from Distance Learning.

### **Tier 3**

- If the re-engagement strategies in Tiers 1 & 2 fail to improve distance learning attendance then a follow-up SST will be held,
- The school administrator may develop an Attendance Plan that includes: teacher engagement; both reward and consequences for further attendance,
- Review of the family circumstance for outside connection with health and social service;
- Meeting with District SAFE staff; and
- Make a recommendation to transitioning the student to full in-person learning.

# School Nutrition

[A description of how the LEA will provide nutritionally adequate meals for all pupils, including those students who are eligible for free or reduced-price meals, when pupils are participating in both in-person instruction and distance learning, as applicable.]

SRCS will offer breakfast and lunch meals to all students each school day. Non-Congregate Grab and Go meals breakfast and lunch meals will be offered each school day the student is not scheduled to be on campus. As of 9/8/2020 40.16% of students qualify for free or reduced-price meals.

## Additional Actions to Implement the Learning Continuity Plan [additional rows and actions may be added as necessary]

Section	Description	Total Funds	Contributing

## Increased or Improved Services for Foster Youth, English Learners, and Low-Income Students

Percentage to Increase or Improve Services	Increased Apportionment Based on the Enrollment of Foster Youth, English Learners, and Low-Income students

## Required Descriptions

[For the actions being provided to an entire school, or across the entire school district or county office of education (COE), an explanation of (1) how the needs of foster youth, English learners, and low-income students were considered first, and (2) how these actions are effective in meeting the needs of these students.]

The needs of foster youth and McKinney-Vento youth were considered first when they were included in the SRCS plan to provide “support care for vulnerable populations,” which addressed the needs of Special Education Students and English Learners. The needs of homeless students were further considered when Student and Family Engagement staff was assigned to make contact with them and verify their housing status before the first week of school. The staff member reached out to each family and discussed the “support care” programs at Biella, Monroe, the Finley Center and at Salvation Army. Additionally, students were surveyed about their needs for accessing distance learning (Chromebooks and hotspots) and enrollment assistance was offered. Foster and homeless youth were also given priority status for district child care programs when they reopen. Making early personal contact with homeless families is especially effective for those students since they relocate frequently and often need assistance at the start of the school year.

[A description of how services for foster youth, English learners, and low-income students are being increased or improved by the percentage required.]

At-risk, or vulnerable students, have a prioritization when it comes to on-site childcare, as funded through the district. This childcare offers increased services in the areas of supporting the whole child during distance learning (through nutritious snacks and Social Emotional Learning activities) and providing supplemental support to vulnerable students. Additionally, students identified in these subgroups have been prioritized for access to internet hot-spots and device distribution.