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 Bishop Unified School District
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August 2020

The 2020 School Year-COVID 19 Edition

The start of the 2020 school year has been intense and overwhelming for teachers, staff members, administrators, and especially parents and students.

In order to alleviate as much anxiety and stress as possible, Bishop Elementary's teachers worked hard to ensure that their Google Classrooms, SeeSaw, and other online resources and applications were "as ready" as possible.

Our awesome tech team worked hard to find Chromebooks in every nook and cranny around the District as they were repairing broken Chromebooks so that we could open school with a device in each student's hand (TK-12). By Monday, August 24th, all students in grades TK-1 will have access to a Chromebook! Kudos to our hard working tech team.

Schedules, Google Classroom, and SeeSaw Platform

Daily schedules have been created by each grade level. Daily schedules begin with "live interaction" via Zoom or Google Meet starting at 8 or 8:30am. Most schedules involve Zoom meetings for ELA and Math, small groups, independent work, and time for office hours.

Teachers in grades TK-1 are working on getting their SeeSaw accounts up and running. The hold up has been creating a master schedule in Aeries, which has never been done before (Shout OUT to our secretaries, Shawna Kane, Brian Law). Creating a master schedule will allow us to upload our rosters into the Clever Portal. With Clever, every student has a personalized portal with a single login for all of their online programs and resources. Students easily log in and immerse themselves in learning while teachers save precious instruction time. We are so close to getting Clever up and running so our students in grades TK-5 have access to all online resources (e.g., IXL, Raz Kids, Spelling City, Smarty Ants, etc.) using one single sign on.

Teachers in 2nd-5th grade have set up their Google Classrooms (GC) and have given Mr. Carr and I "student" or "co teacher" access so we can see each GC and see what is being taught, what assignments are being assigned, etc. So far, there is a lot of interaction occurring on GCs.

Specialists

Specialists and their aides are "Rocking and Rolling." Elaina Stoll, Michele Torimaru, Kim Beard, and Shelly Daugherty will be working together to provide reading intervention to students. The first few items on their "To Do List" are to develop a schedule that fits with every grade level's schedule and that allows them to touch base with as many students as possible; create GCs for reading intervention; and figure out a way to

assess students in K-1 in phonemic awareness and phonics in case we do not receive a waiver for students to come on campus to be assessed. The instructional aides assigned to Title 1 are working on creating videos to send out to students using 95% material.

In addition to helping Title 1, Shelly and Kim have created their own GCs. They regularly update their GCs with art and PE activities.

Sharon Connor and Kelly Willy are working with their aides to ensure that they are meeting the needs of our students with IEPs.

Attendance and "Daily Live Interaction"

Student attendance is off to a great start. Through the first two days of Distance Learning, we are at a 97% attendance rate. Teachers have been having success with their morning meetings and other instances of "Daily Live Interaction." Some families are still having trouble accessing those meetings, but we are continually working through those issues. We have conducted several home visits over the last week to try and connect with those students and families that are having difficulties. More hotspots are arriving soon and we will get those distributed to alleviate the internet access issue. Teachers have done a great job with working with our families, meeting with them to walk through the use of technology and other issues. They understand that we are all in this together.

PLC Meetings

Teachers have been able to meet a few times over the past two weeks as a PLC team. During their meetings, they have discussed what assessments they will be using to determine students' current phonemic awareness, phonics, reading comprehension, and mathematical abilities. In addition, they are developing their SMART Goals for Trimester 1 and identifying their essential standards. Once I have every grade level's list of assessments being used, SMART goals, and essentials standards, I will communicate them with you in an upcoming board report.