

Blue Lake Union Elementary School District
Distance Learning Plan 2.0



Home of the Mustangs
Updated: August 24, 2020

I. Introduction

This Distance Learning Plan 2.0 (DLP 2.0) will serve as guidance for staff, students, and families. This plan has been updated to adhere to new legislation, SB 98. Our plan will serve as a model for future full-closures or partial-closures as our global community copes with the implications of the pandemic.

Blue Lake Union Elementary School is dedicated to supporting students socially, emotionally, and academically. Although we prefer a model of in-person education, we are committed to keeping our students learning while we face this unprecedented time.

During the closure, the District has the following goals for our time with our students and families:

- To maintain essential services for students and families.
- To maintain communication, connection, and relationships among, staff, students, and families.
- To ensure that students' progress toward essential standards.
- To provide learning activities for students and families during school closures.
- To partner with families and become team teachers in our students' educational opportunities.

II. California Department of Education Definition of Distance Learning

Education Code Section 43500(a).

Distance learning means instruction in which the pupil and instructor are in different locations and pupils are under the general supervision of a certified employee of the local educational agency (LEA).

Distance learning may include, but is not limited to, all of the following:

- Interaction, instructions, and check-ins between teachers and pupils through the use of a computer or other communications technology.
- Video or audio instruction in which the primary mode of communication between the pupil and certified employee is online interaction, instructional television, video, telecourses, or other instruction that relies on computer or communications technology.
- The use of print, video, and audio materials incorporating assignments that are the subject of written or oral feedback.

III. Blue Lake Union Elementary School District's Philosophy

Distance learning is a response to a changing global environment that inspires and ignites continuous learning opportunities for access to all students. It transcends classrooms and brings learning to the home where families partner with our teachers to provide students with educational experiences that provide academic learning and build connection, community, and compassion.

As a learning organization, it is important that we are mindful that we are all learners in this experience. Therefore, as we continue through this journey, we will build our individual capacities to learn, to share, and to grow with one another. We are in this together and together is better

IV. Blue Lake Union Elementary School District's (BLUESD) Distance Learning Plan

In response to the COVID-19 global health crisis, BLUESD has developed a Distance Learning Plan 2.0 so our students can continue learning while our school facilities are closed. This plan represents our commitment to ensure each student continues to progress academically, socially, and emotionally.

This plan is founded on the following principles:

- Maintaining teaching and learning.
- Supporting our teachers, students, and parents/guardians as they transition to distance learning.
- Providing access for all students.

Throughout the school closure BLUESD teachers will provide students with instruction through a blended instructional distance learning model of online learning and paper packets. This instruction will be provided both in a synchronous (live) and asynchronous (recorded) manner. Teachers will also work with families that need to have materials provided in a paper format.

- Instructional materials will be provided by the district for students to access independently.
- Direct instruction will be provided daily in a live format. (synchronous)
- Teachers may pre-record lessons to share with students. (asynchronous)
- Students will have opportunities to access self-pacing programs such as Freckles, Accelerated Reader, MobyMax, Studies Weekly, Newsela, ABCya, Starfall, IXL.
- Teachers will utilize email, Class Dojo, Google Classroom, and phones to communicate.
- Families can communicate through email, Class Dojo, Google Classroom, and/or phone calls.
- Teachers will provide differentiated and small group instruction based on individual student need.

V. Accountability: Senate Bill 98 Distance Learning Requirements

- Daily live interaction requirement: There must be daily live interaction with teachers and peers for purposes of instruction, progress monitoring, and maintaining school connectedness.
- Taking student attendance: SB 98 creates requirements for reporting attendance during distance learning.
- Weekly engagement records: Schools are required to keep weekly engagement records noting how much synchronous (live) or asynchronous (activities, assignments, non-live instruction) instruction a student has received. If a student misses more than 60% of their weekly participation rate, a re-engagement plan will be developed.
- Student attendance is not optional. BLUESD will make every effort to ensure student participation.
- Instructional Content: Distance Learning must include high quality content aligned to grade level standards.
- Teachers must deliver academic and other supports designed to address the needs of students who are performing below grade level or need support in other areas.

VI. Instructional Minutes:

Minimum Requirements	
Grade Level	Minimum
PreK/TK	180 minutes/day
1-3	230 minutes/day
4-8	240 minutes/day

VII. Standards

The Common Core State Standards (CCSS) will be taught by Blue Lake Union School District teachers during distance learning. CCSS establishes clear, consistent guidelines for what every student in California should know and be able to do in math and English language arts. In addition to this, the Essential Standards Toolkit was developed in partnership between the Humboldt County Office of Education and several local school districts, including the Blue Lake Union School District. This Essential Standards Toolkit serves to identify the primary CCSS that should be supported and assessed at each grade level. Not only does this document serve as a communication tool for families to better understand what the curricular focus will be at our core, but it also serves as a method for teachers to track student progress towards standards mastery.

VIII. Grading

- Students will be instructed using a state aligned CCSS curriculum and assessed on the essential standards, work completion, and participation.
- Students will be graded using district assessments, work samples, projects, quizzes, and tests.
- Report cards will reflect the student progress for each given reporting period/trimester.

IX. Instructional Methods

- *Synchronous Learning* is a general term used to describe forms of education, instruction, and learning that occur at the same time, but not in the same place. The term is most commonly applied to various forms of televisual, digital, and online learning in which students learn from instructors, colleagues, or peers in real time, but not in person. For example, educational video conferences, interactive webinars, chat-based online discussions, and lectures that are broadcast at the same time they delivered would all be considered forms of synchronous learning.
- *Asynchronous Learning* is a general term used to describe forms of education, instruction, and learning that do not occur in the same place or at the same time. The term is most commonly applied to various forms of digital and online learning in which students learn from instruction—such as prerecorded video lessons or game-based learning tasks that students complete on their own—that is not being delivered in person or in real time. Yet asynchronous learning may also encompass a wide variety of instructional interactions, including email exchanges between teachers, online discussion boards, and course-management systems that organize instructional materials and correspondence, among many other possible variations.

X. Legislation (SB 98) mandates daily live interaction.

We understand there may be extenuating circumstances and it might not be feasible for students to participate in the daily live interaction. We will work with families, to develop an alternative plan for frequent live interaction that provides a comparable level of service and school connectedness (Pursuant to Education Code Section 43503(b)(6)). Please speak with DeAnn Waldvogel and your child's classroom teacher for more information if this is a need.

Teachers will contact families in the first week of school. During this time, they will work together to create a plan that will ensure the highest quality of education possible for each student.

XI. Distance Learning Behavior Expectations

Blue Lake Union Elementary School Districts Code of Conduct asks our students to be Safe, Respectful, and Responsible at all times. This remains the expectation during Distance Learning. Below are expectations for entering an online class, participating in whole-group or in small-group activities, participating in one-on-one instruction, and/or in breakout rooms.

- **Be Safe**
 - ✓ Choose a quiet, distraction-free space.
 - ✓ Use equipment as intended.
 - ✓ Limit side conversations with others who may be near your workspace.
 - ✓ Come to the class meeting with your correct name, picture, and background.

- **Be Respectful**
 - ✓ Listen.
 - ✓ Take turns.
 - ✓ Say and type kind words/emojis to others.
 - ✓ Respect others' cultures, opinions, work, and points of view.
 - ✓ Raise your hand if you would like to speak.
 - ✓ Think about what you want to share before sharing it.
 - ✓ Be patient. Remember that your teacher is also new to teaching in this manner.
 - ✓ Always keep your video on and audio muted unless asked otherwise.

- **Be Responsible**
 - ✓ Be ready to learn when you enter the meeting
 - ✓ Come to the meeting on time.
 - ✓ Have your materials with you and your device plugged in or charged.
 - ✓ Participate and ask questions when you have them.
 - ✓ Have your materials with you and your device plugged in or charged.
 - ✓ Be present - avoid multitasking.
 - ✓ Be appropriate and wear appropriate clothing to participate in all class activities.

XII. Roles and Expectations in Supporting Distance Learning

- *Students:*
 - Identify a comfortable and quiet space to learn and to study
 - Dedicate part of each day to learning.
 - Older students should know their username and passwords for online learning
 - Participate and complete lessons and/or activities assigned.
 - Regularly check online platforms
 - Work cooperatively with the teacher, peers, and family members.
 - Take breaks and engage in physical activity

- *Teachers:*
 - Develop high quality distance learning lessons for all students.
 - Collaborate with support staff regarding student needs.
 - Provide accommodations and supports to students with individualized needs.

- Provide instructional resources to support students and to help them progress.
 - Hold regular meetings to connect with and support students.
 - Deliver lessons through pre-recorded videos using Class Dojo or Zoom
 - Communicate weekly with families regarding student engagement and progress.
 - Engage in and complete all Professional Development (PD)
 - Ensure that you are monitoring school communications for up-to-date information regarding school closures, instructional continuation plans, and Distance Education resources.
- *Families:*
 - Provide a distraction free learning space for your child
 - Ensure that a mobile device and Internet access are available at home. For assistance, contact your child's teacher or DeAnn Waldvogel: dwaldvogel@bluelakeschool.org or 707-498-7615
 - Visit our district website for up-to-date information and support regarding distance learning.
 - Ensure your child can access their usernames and passwords. For assistance with this, contact your child's classroom teacher or Laurie Lynch (llynch@bluelakeschool.org)
 - Participate in weekly communication with your child's teachers and support staff.
 - Support your child's emotional well-being by providing time for breaks and playtime

XIII. Inclusion and Accessibility

Students with Individualized Education Plans (IEP), 504 Accommodation Plans, or counseling services will be provided additional support by their case carrier or counselor. Case carriers and the counselor will communicate with families to determine needed support for all students to access their education and make progress toward their goals. Case carriers and the counselor will work with General Education Teachers to ensure that all students have access to the General Education Curriculum and their social-emotional needs will be addressed. Students will be provided individualized work or counseling check-ins and will be given assignment options that meet their individual needs, as discussed and agreed upon by the IEP team. If you have questions or concerns about your child's IEP, 504 Accommodation Plan or counseling, please contact your child's case carrier:

- Resource Specialist: Suzie Kison (skison@bluelakeschool.org)
- Special Day Class: Fay Curtis (fcurtis@bluelakeschool.org)
- Speech Pathologist: Benay Bowles (bbowles@bluelakeschool.org)
- School Psych/Counselor: Caitlyn Spina (cspina@bluelakeschool.org)

XIV. Mental Health Counseling

COVID-19 and school closures will create stress for many students. Educationally Related Mental Health Services (ERMHS) will continue as defined in the IEP via teletherapy or telephone.

XV. School Counseling Services

Services will continue for those students previously receiving school counseling and new referrals will be reviewed and monitored by school counseling staff. Mental Health and Social Emotional resources will be available to students through the school counselor and classroom teachers. They will work together to provide social emotional support to students. If you see a need arising, please reach out to your classroom teacher.

XVI. Reading Intervention

In some cases, our reading intervention teacher may be able to provide additional supplemental instruction through an online delivery model that is differentiated for learners and provide additional guidance and resources on instructional level for students.

XVII. English Language Development

Teachers with English Learner (EL) students will integrate instruction into the generalized education Distance Learning program or recommend online resources to students to support their ongoing growth in English. Teachers will be responsible for maintaining ongoing contact with their EL students and will maintain an electronic log of their interactions with students. All ELL students will have access to an English Language Development (ELD) online program.

XVIII. Device Access and Internet Access

If you have any questions on how to access the Internet, Google Classroom, or Zoom from your device, please contact your classroom teacher or Laurie Lynch (llynch@bluelakeschool.org).

If you need Internet, the following companies currently have specials.

- Altice/Suddenlink Response: offers 30 MB internet to any new subscriber free for 60 days. No late fees or terminations for existing customers.
- Comcast COVID-19 response: offers free WiFi for 2 months to low income families plus all Xfinity hot-spots are free to the public during this time.
- Charter: Free Internet offer for 2 months.
- AT&T COVID-19 response: offers open hot-spots, unlimited data to existing customers, and \$10/month plans to low-income families.

XIX. ASES

- The program will operate 8:00am-2:30pm with strict safety protocols in place.
- We will have 3 to 4 pods of no more than 12 students each on-campus.
- Two pods will be at Blue Lake School, and two pods will be at Perigot Park/Prasch Hall
- Students will be required to practice all safety precautions and protocols.
- Students will be selected to participate on-campus using the following criteria:
 - ❖ Overall Need
 - ❖ Ability of student to maintain safety protocols
 - ❖ Consistent Attendance
- ASES will also provide online academic support and enrichment activities.

XX. Next Steps

The Board of Trustees will be updated at each Board meeting about our local COVID conditions, and they will re-evaluate the re-opening of the entire school when we are at or near Stage 3 on the [Resilience Roadmap](#) and our [Dashboard Alert Levels](#) are below 3.

XXI. On-Going Support and Resources:

- **Blue Lake Union Elementary School District Website:**
 - ❖ <https://bluelakeschool.org>
- **Guidance from the California Department of Education:**
 - ❖ <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/he/hn/distancelearning.asp>
- **Humboldt County of Education Resources & Information**
 - ❖ <https://hcoe.org/covid-19/>
- **The Road Ahead: Humboldt County Schools Reopening Framework**
 - ❖ <https://hcoe.org/wp-content/uploads/The-Road-Ahead.pdf>
- **Humboldt County Public Health and Human Services**
 - ❖ <https://humboldtgov.org/330/Public-Health>
- **Humboldt County Public Health Local Orders**
 - ❖ <https://humboldtgov.org/2725/Local-Orders>
- **California Department of Public Health COVID-19 Industry Guidance: Schools and School Based Programs**
 - ❖ <https://files.covid19.ca.gov/pdf/guidance-schools.pdf>
- **California Department of Public Health: COVID-19 In-Person Learning Framework 2020-2021**
 - ❖ https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/COVID-19/Schools%20Reopening%20Recommendations.pdf?fbclid=IwAR2laXu_Xh9_Rkd41HrJse3huS80k8NDOBvwcKkSEa7xjX_x6BjL4Nv8nWE
- **Center for Disease Control - Schools Decision Tree**
 - ❖ https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/schools.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fcommunity%2Fschools-childcare%2Fguidance-for-schools.html
- **California Department of Education - Stronger Together: A Guidebook for the Safe Reopening of California's Public Schools**
 - ❖ <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/he/hn/documents/strongertogether.pdf>
- **Common State Standards**
 - ❖ <https://www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/ss/documents/finaletacssstandards.pdf>

