Summary
The District met with the Superintendent Parent Advisory (SPAC) on August 19, and the District English Learners Advisory Committee (DELAC) on August 24, to share the district’s draft plan of the Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan. As part of the requirement of the Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan, districts must present the plan to its Parent Advisory Council and English Learners Advisory group prior to the Public Hearing and post member comments on the district website. The Superintendent responds to the questions in writing which is also posted on the district website.

4 Comments Submitted from Superintendent Parent Advisory Members

Question #1
On page 12 (Staff Roles and Responsibilities), there is no reference to the training provided for substitute teachers. How is NUSD’s substitute teacher pool being trained to seamlessly teach or transition to distance learning? Given that teachers will likely be out for short-term or extended periods during the school year what preparation is NUSD offering to those in substitute positions so that there is minimal disruption to continuity of instruction?

NUSD Response
In light of being in Distance Learning, we have identified certificated substitutes who will be assigned to each school site in the event that a teacher needs to take a day of leave. We have trained these subs and have provided them with technology since they have committed to being available five days a week at their assigned site. Having trained subs who are already available every day to be assigned to a teacher taking leave creates more continuity for students and less transition time than trying to find a new sub every morning who may not have worked at the site and/or does not have the necessary technology. In addition, if these subs are not taking on a specific class on a given day, they will be assigned to support teachers and administration with engagement during instruction and outreach to families as appropriate.

Question #2
On page 8 (Continuity of Learning), page 11 (Continuity of Instruction), and page 30 (Pupil and Family Engagement and Outreach), several references are made to Covid contingencies or "Health Guidelines" with regard to students, but no protocols are outlined with regard to implementation to school closures, clustered quarantines, contact tracing, notification, or even how students will transition between in-person and DL based on those contingencies. A plan exists, why is that not being communicated to constituents or outlined in this plan even if CDC guidelines or state health recommendations change?
NUSD Response
The NUSD COVID Health Plan is in the Digital Backpack and has been made available to the public. The Health Plan includes information regarding the roles and responsibilities of the NUSD COVID Response Team (CRT), as well as requirements for site safety and COVID screening and monitoring. It also includes actions required by site staff if a person is symptomatic on-site if a positive person has been in contact with individuals on-site, and when and if a recommendation would be made to the Superintendent for school closure. The plan is based entirely on the recommendations and guidance from Sacramento County Public Health.

Statement
This was a very thorough draft to the NUSD approach to distance learning. I appreciate all the hard work that was put into this. The one thing that stood out to me (and maybe it's because I am hopeful for a return to in-person instruction) is that even with all the guidelines that are to be put in place if we were to return to regular in-class instruction, there seems that there would be some interruption with the current school year. I know that these conversations are probably more hypothetical but it would be nice to have schedules that would adapt fluidly from distance learning, to hybrid learning, to full in-class instruction and/or possibly even revert back to distance learning. It seemed a little disconnected for what is currently in place compared to what was in the draft. Probably more so with secondary schedules due to the different schedules (A, B).

NUSD Response
Thank you for your observation and response.

Statement
Have more information regarding kids with IEPs reclassification for ELAC testing and how to request it. In general more information in those areas. Mental health and emotional support is awesome in supporting kids!

NUSD Response
Thank you for your observation and response.

2 Comments Submitted from District English Learners Advisory Committee Members

Statement
Office hours would be really helpful because sometimes I want to reach out to teachers and I'm not sure if I can.

NUSD Response
Thank you for your observation and response.
Statement
The resources for EL families are helpful; however, my student has already been reclassified.

NUSD Response
Thank you for your observation and response.