



# Maintaining High Levels of Parent/Family Engagement During Distance Learning

June 8, 2020

# Checking In

- ***Maintaining High Levels of Parent/Family Engagement During Distance Learning*** will start shortly.
- Please complete the “Do Now” activity as we wait for everyone to sign in.
- **Do Now:**
  - Please share your name and organization in the chat.
  - Also share one thing you are looking forward to taking away from this meeting.

# Welcome

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# Distance Learning Module Series Overview

- This presentation builds on themes from a session that was offered on May 6 “Supporting Families and Communities in Distance Learning.”
  - Visit the [CCEE website](#) for resources from the May 6 session.
- Another session will be offered on June 15.
  - Please [register for the June 15 session](#).
- You can engage more deeply with today’s presenters during office hours on June 16.
  - Please [register for office hours](#).

# Presenters from Oxnard School District

Dr. Marlene Batista - Director of English Learner Services

Mr. Alberto Mendoza - District Parent/Community Liaison

Mrs. Rosa Castellanos - Site Administrator

Mrs. Maria Magana - Site Outreach Specialist

Mrs. Jessica Vargas - Parent/DELAC President/Project 2INSPIRE

Mrs. Maryann Rodriguez - Parent/PTA

# Agenda

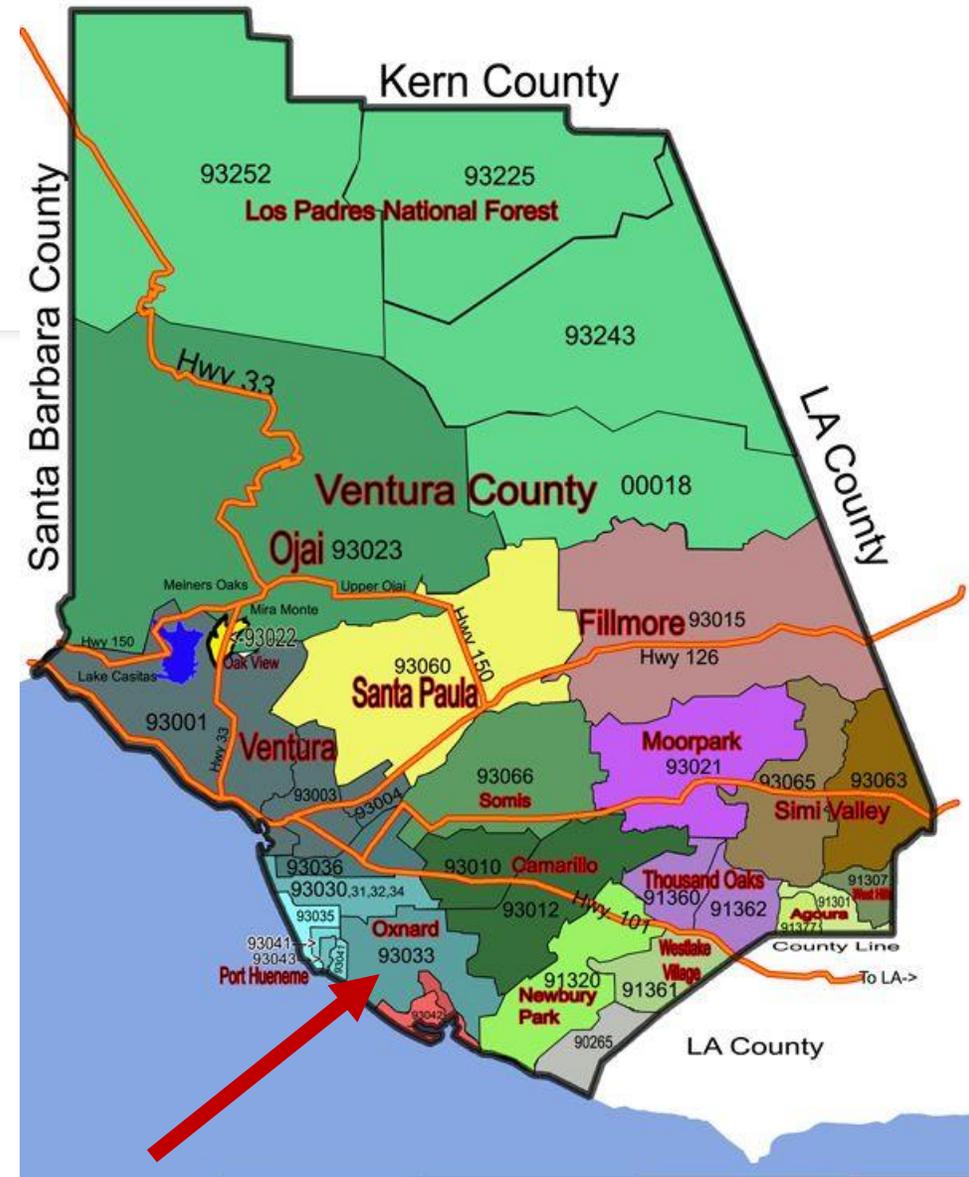
Time	Topic
1:00-1:10	Welcome / Introductions
1:10-1:25	Parent Engagement: Where We Were and How Far We've Come (2016-Present)
1:25-1:35	Engaging and Empowering Parents: Project 2INSPIRE
1:35-1:45	Site Level Engagement: Family Connections
1:45-1:55	School Closures: Phased Response to Family Engagement and Support
1:55-2:10	Connecting in New and Wonderful Ways
2:10-2:20	Panel Q & A

# Session Outcomes

- **ALL PARTICIPANTS:** Positive parent engagement and empowerment – where to begin?
- **PARENTS & SITE LEADERS:** Tools necessary for strong school and family relations
- **DISTRICT LEADERS:** Equity Lens - using parent mentors to engage your EL and high needs families
- **DISTRICT LEADERS:** Creating an effective and strong system that is inclusive of all families and that will continue to work in any environment - Build It and They Will Come!



- Ventura County
- 50 miles west of Los Angeles
- 200,000 residents
- 73% Latino
- 60% Spanish Speaking
- Crime index – 17/100 Robbery (double state average)



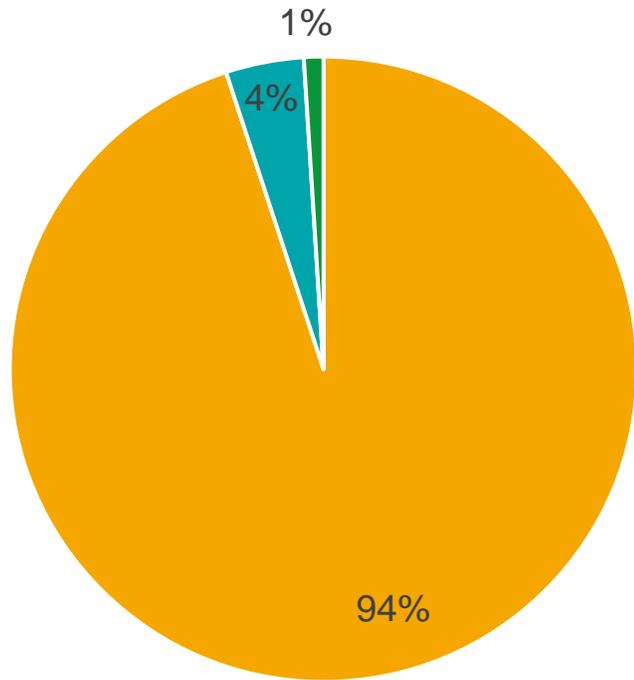
# Oxnard School District

- Elementary School District (TK-8)
- Approx. 16,151 students
- 10 K-5 schools
- 7 K-8 schools
- 3 Intermediate Schools
- 10 Schools with Dual Language Programs (Spanish)
- 97% of families are Latino
- 44% of students are English Learners
- 87% of students are from low-SES households



# Demographics

## OSD Home Languages

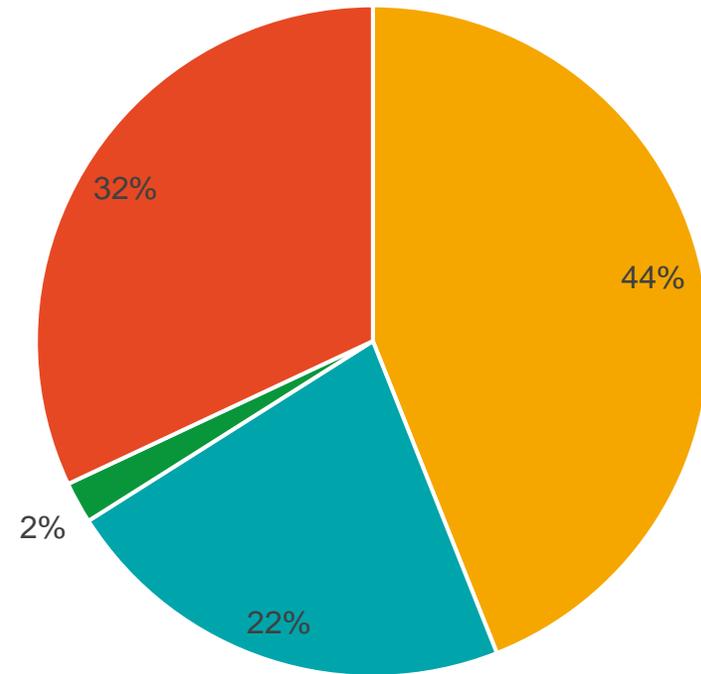


■ Spanish ■ Mixteco ■ Other

### Other languages:

Arabic  
Zapoteco  
Vietnamese  
Tagalog

## English Fluency in OSD



■ EL ■ RFEF ■ IFEP ■ EO

# Where were we in 2016?



- Hostility between the district and parents
- Lack of communication
- Lack of collaboration
- Manipulation and intimidation among parents
- Negative parent leadership/blame game
- Focus on control of money and budget
- Using uninformed parents to promote negative messages to other parents
- Common language “You deserve this, they owe us, they work for us..” without consideration to what was best for kids
- Parent committees were mostly misguided
- Parents didn’t advocate they demanded; harassment to staff members by parents



# Dangers of Negative Leadership



# LEADERSHIP

EDUCATE

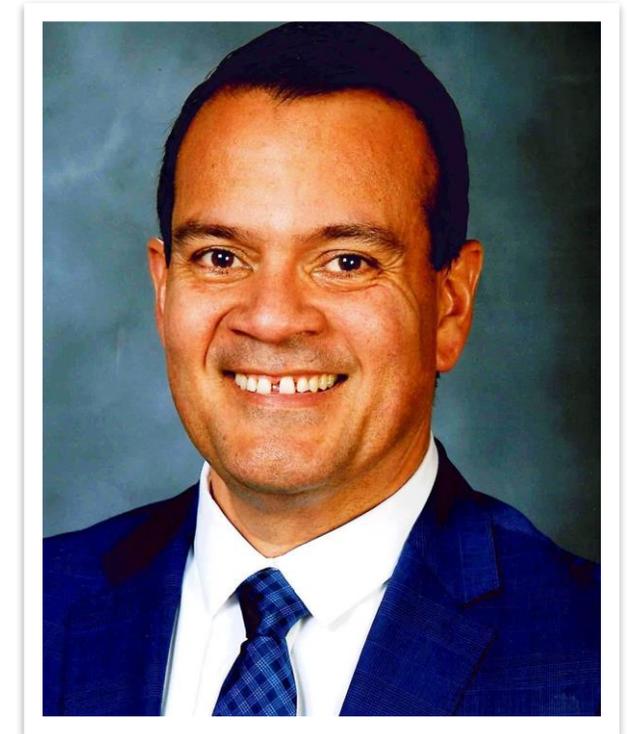


EMPOWER

INSPIRE



Dr. Cesar Morales



Dr. Karling Aguilera

# The District Needed Changes

Build trust by  
truly listening  
to parents

Encourage  
parents to share  
accurate  
information with  
each other

Empower  
positive parent  
leaders through  
training and  
developing their  
leadership skills

Collaborate with  
parents in all  
aspects of their  
children's  
education

Continue  
developing  
relationships  
between district  
and parents by  
creating an  
environment of  
mutual respect

# Parents Needed Changes

Open themselves up to trust the new administration and district leadership

Bring back many of the parents who had distanced themselves through sharing of correct and positive information

Organize and unite existing positive leaders

Positive parent leaders strategized and took back site and district committees

Become trained and help train other parents with truthful and accurate information

# OSD Vision for Parent Involvement



- Educate and Empower our parents to be partners with our district in the education of their children.
- Create mentors within our parent community to educate and engage other parents in becoming partners with us as well.
- *Under Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) the term “parent involvement” no longer exists and has been replaced with “parent engagement.” This word exchange was intentional as the word engage is defined as “to attract and interlock with.”*
- *“Involvement implies ‘doing to’ whereas engagement implies ‘doing with’.” - Larry Ferlazzo*

# What Steps Did OSD Take?



## Hired Parent Support Liaison

- Overseeing all parent classes and activities
- Working with other departments on parental engagement
- Go to person for our parents
- Resource for our Outreach Specialists and site personnel

# What Steps Did OSD Take?



## Professional Development and Leadership Building with DELAC/ELAC

- Positive empowerment of leadership boards at site and district level
- Collaborative relationship with EL parent leadership
- Ensuring meetings were effective and supportive of parent needs

# What Steps Did OSD Take?



Development of our  
parents as leaders  
through education

- Every site provided parent education classes in 2016-17 through ORCs
- Partnership with CAFE Project 2INSPIRE district classes 2017-18
- Expansion of Project 2INSPIRE at site level in 2018-19

# What Steps Did OSD Take?



## Conferences and family events

- Participated in countywide EL Parent Conference “Saber Es Poder”
- Collaboration with Migrant Ed for continued parent education and workshops
- LA Book Festival family trip
- Inclusion of AVID Excel families in AVID college trips and family nights
- Opportunity to attend VC CABE and CABE conference each year

# Project 2INSPIRE

Creating mentors and  
facilitators from within our  
parent community



# 3 Tiers of Classes

OSD Started here with our  
DELAC/ELAC parents



## Tier 1

Site level classes of 10-weeks facilitated by P21 parent graduates. Target audience are parents at the site level who are not as engaged as they could be and who are not familiar with the school system.

## Tier 2

District level classes of 12-weeks for parents facilitated by CABE instructor. Target audience are parents who have completed Tier 1 and would like to advance their knowledge or already highly involved parents.

## Tier 3

District level classes of 16-weeks facilitated by a CABE instructor. Target audience are parents who have completed Tier 1 and/or 2 and are interested in becoming facilitators.

- ❖ 40 L3 Facilitators
- ❖ 75 L2 Graduates
- ❖ 125 L1 Graduates
- ❖ 17 Schools w/ L1 Classes
- ❖ 4 Schools scheduled for Spring L1 Classes
- ❖ On-Line L3 Class via Zoom currently in session with 35-40 weekly participants



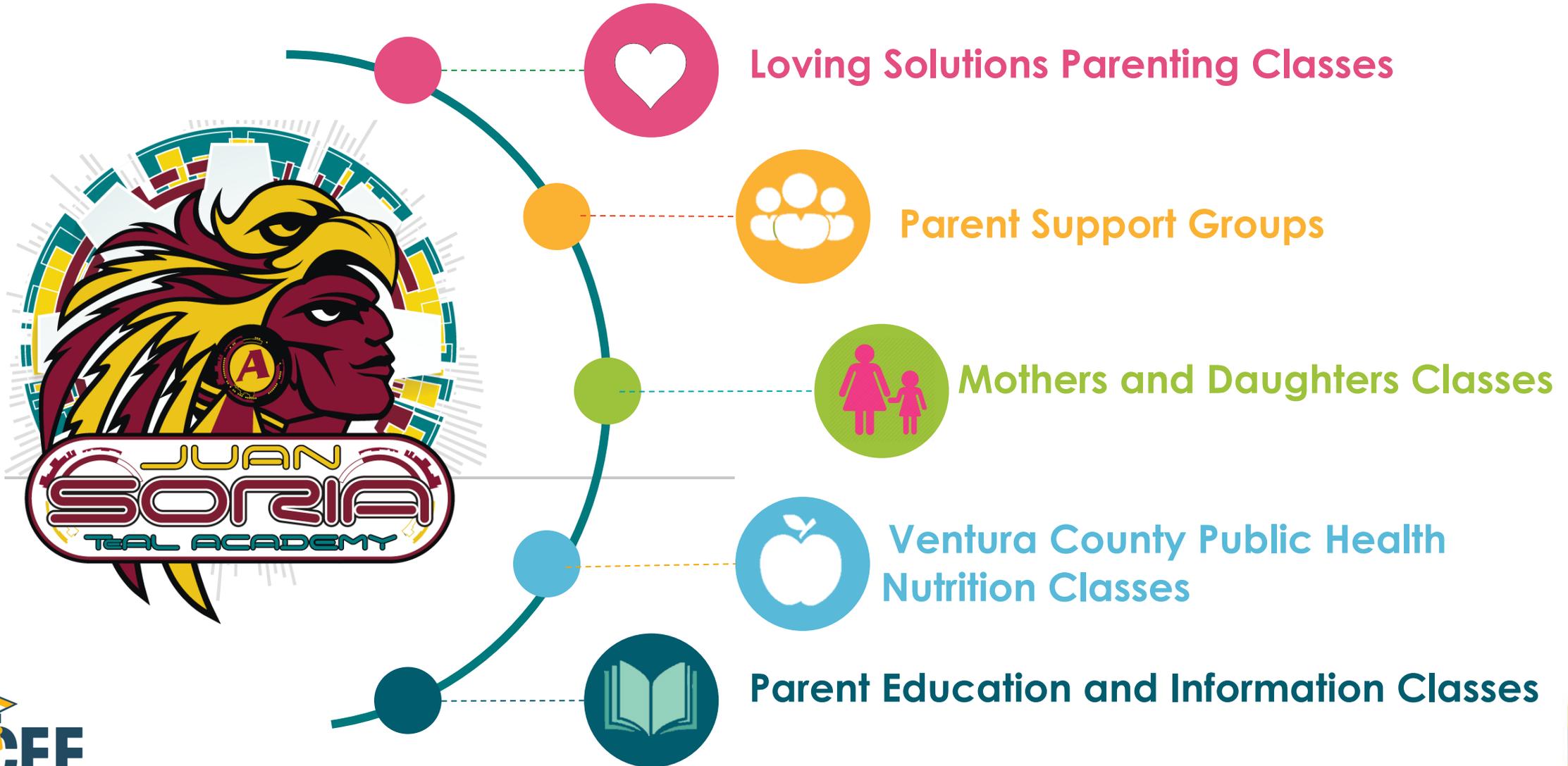
# Scope of OSD Services



- ORC at each site
- Counselor at each site
- 3 Behavioral specialists
- District Liaison – foster/homeless
- Weekend food backpack program
- Free breakfast and lunch for all students



# Site Level Services at Juan Lagunas Soria School



# Site Level Services at Juan Lagunas Soria School

## Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports

### Referrals to Outside Agencies

Lions Club – vision

Camarillo Hospice

The Coalition for Family Harmony

New Dawn Counseling

Beacon – counseling services

Ventura County Public Health

Interface Family Services

Clinicas Del Camino Real

Ventura County Behavioral Health

Assistance League Ventura  
County (OSB)

Children's Resource Program (Dental and Vision)



# On site Parent Committees

- English Language Advisory Committee (ELAC)
- School Site Council (SSC)
- Parent Teacher Association (PTA)
- Project 2 Inspire



# School Closures - Phased Response to Family Involvement *Phase 1*



March 16 – April 3<sup>rd</sup>: Connection to every single student to be made

- ✓ Needs assessment – technology, basic needs, best means of communication
- ✓ Distribution of information and food
- ✓ Work packets created by district
- ✓ Staff/teacher planning for Distance Learning
- ✓ Continued with P2I L3 Virtually
- ✓ April 6<sup>th</sup> – April 17<sup>th</sup> ~ SPRING BREAK

# School Closures - Phased Response to Family Involvement *Phase 2*



April 20<sup>th</sup> – Present: Distance Learning plan in place

- ✓ Counselors reaching out and continuing to work with students and families
- ✓ ORCs contacting hard to reach families, connecting families to community services, chats with students
- ✓ Teachers providing lessons and check ins with families
- ✓ Technology distribution – ipads to 1<sup>st</sup> graders, hotspots to families

# Digital Parental Involvement

## *A Whole New World*

- Project 2INSPIRE Zoom Meeting every Friday
  - Average attendance of 32-43 parents
  - Past Facilitators mentoring new Level 3 participants
  - Parents doing presentations digitally for their colleagues
  - Relationship building between all Lvl 3 cohorts
- SSC Meetings via Zoom
- ELAC/DELAC/PAC Meetings via Zoom
  - Over 50 parents attended DELAC
  - About 24 parents attended PAC
- PTA Meetings via Zoom



# Digital Parental Involvement

## *A Whole New World*

- Technology Assistance and Support by appointment
- Response and callbacks within 24-hours
- Parents helping parents
  - What's App groups and video calls
  - Padres Juntos Promoviendo la Educacion
  - Zoom, FaceTime, Google Meet, FB Messenger to create parent forums and supports
- Use of Social Media - Twitter, FB, Instagram
- Website Resources
  - ORC/Counselor Drop down menus
  - Peachjar
- OSD TV
  - Lessons on cable and via streaming



# School Closures ~ Phased Response to Family Involvement *Future Planning*

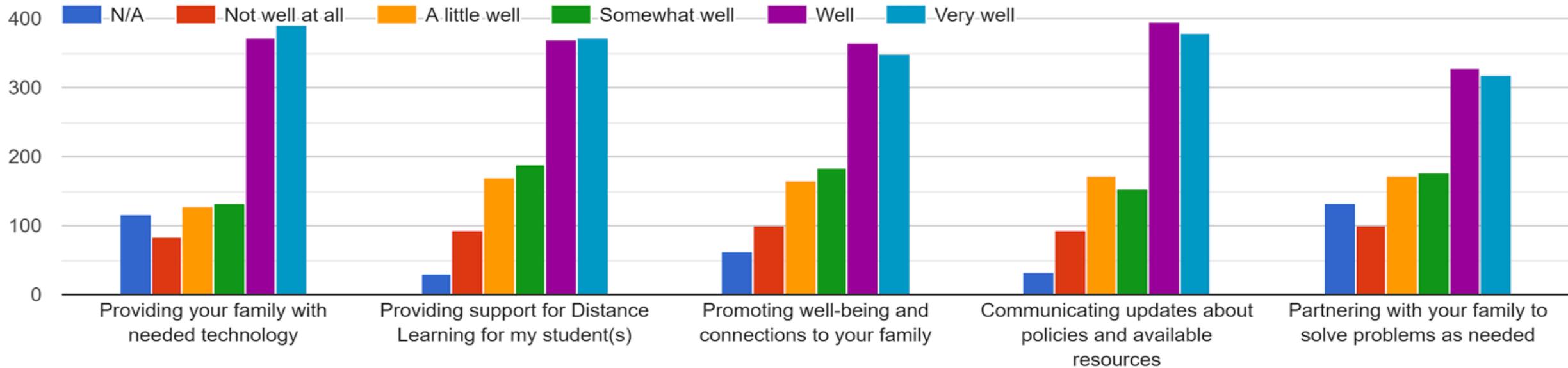


## Currently:

- ✓ Parent Distance Learning Survey and Input for next year - over 1800 responses so far
- ✓ Technology to be kept by students over the summer to provide enrichment and support for students and families
- ✓ Purchase of Ipads for Kindergarten students for 20-21 school year
- ✓ Re-opening Task force with all stakeholders (Teachers, administrators, parents, classified staff, etc...)

# Stakeholder Data

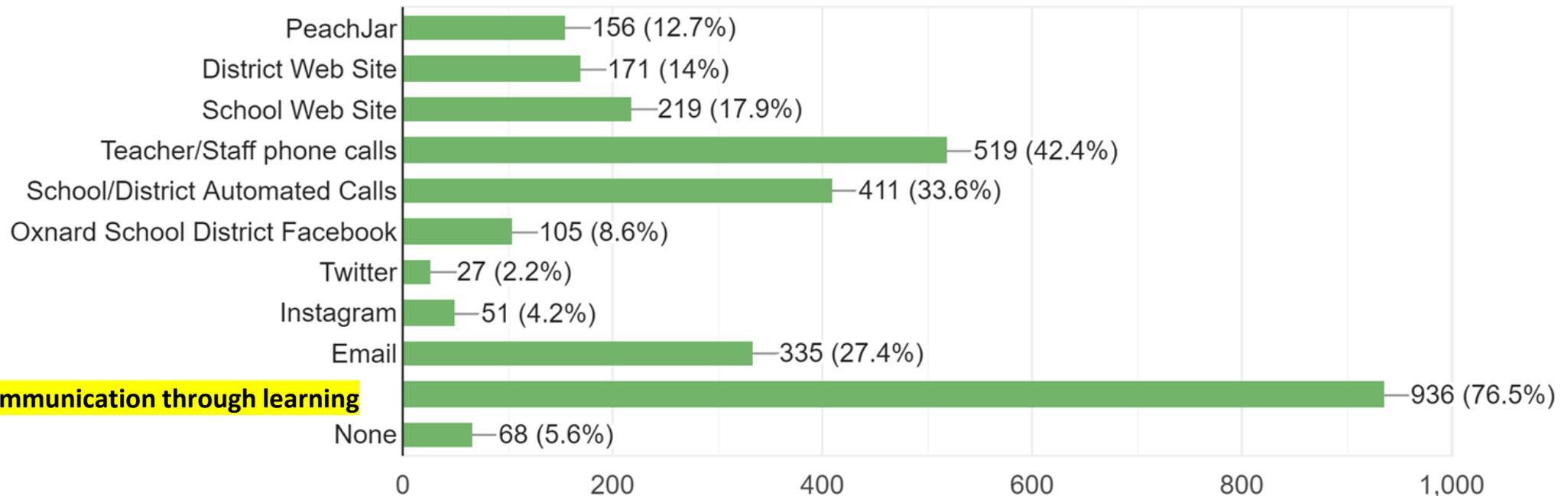
After the school closures, how well do you think your school or district office supported your family in the following for Distance Learning:



# Stakeholder Data

Which school or district supports have you found most valuable in this transition to Distance Learning (mark all that apply)

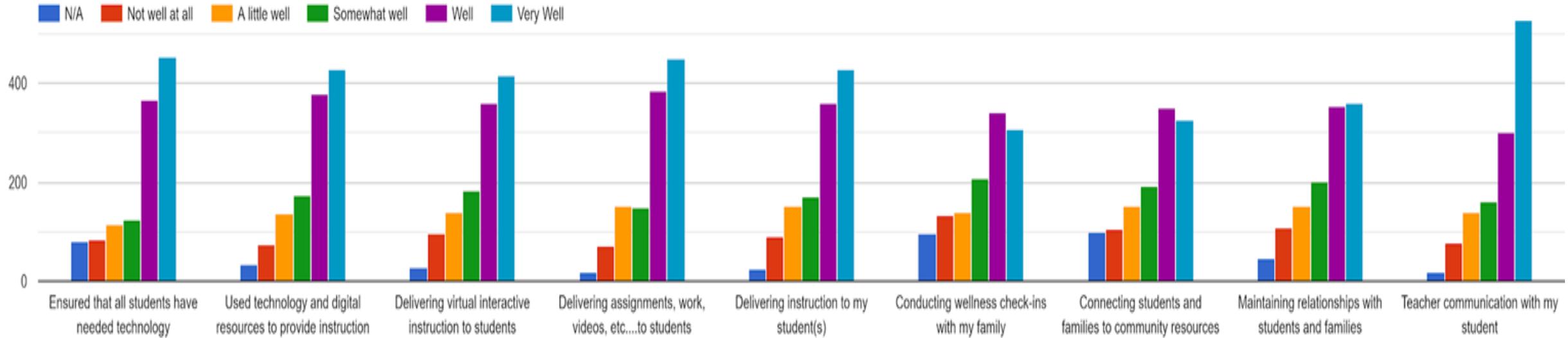
1,224 responses



Teacher communication through learning

# Stakeholder Data

How well has staff done the following:



# Resources

[District Website](#)

[OSD TV](#)

[Juan Soria Website](#)

[OSD English Learner Master Plan](#)

[CABE Project 2INSPIRE](#)

[Padres Juntos Promoviendo la Educación Facebook](#)

**District Facebook Page: @OxnardSchoolDistrict**

**Twitter: @OxnardSD**

**Instagram/YouTube/NextDoor: @OxnardSchoolDistrict**



# Follow Up

- [Session Survey](#)
- [Register for Office Hours](#)
- [Register for June 15 Session](#)

# Questions & Answers



**Partnerships are not hard work,  
but heart work. Not more work  
but the work. Not harder work  
but smarter work to mobilize all  
available resources that  
will contribute to  
student success.**

# Contact Information

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- Mrs. Rosa Castellanos: [rcastellanos@oxnardsd.org](mailto:rcastellanos@oxnardsd.org)
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