New Mexico K-12 education amid COVID-19: What's working?



LAS CRUCES - Schools in New Mexico have been deeply affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, forced to switch to all online classes in the blink of an eye in March. Now some districts are beginning to adapt to a hybrid learning model.

It's been months since the pandemic rocked the system. Districts, educators and organizations are continually looking for solutions to help support students during this time.

Each district faces different problems. Ultimately each wants to support

its students, teachers and families through the pandemic.

Suggest a story: Email reporter Miranda Cyr at mcyr@lcsun-news.com.

Here's what's working

<u>Carlsbad Literacy Program begins in-person instruction after months</u> <u>of closure</u>

The Carlsbad Literacy Program returned to classes knowing that distance learning is not possible with their adult students. The group will be offering small tutoring classes to maintain social distancing.



Farmington families fight to get kids back in school; students struggle with mental health

Farmington has focused on suicide prevention and mental health amidst the death of three teens in the community. Groups in the area have differing ideas on how to handle these losses and prevent future suicides.

Mescalero Apache Tribe adjusts to virtual classes amidst COVID-19

The Mescalero Apache tribe tried to balance the new online learning environment, facing a lack of childcare services and sufficient internet access.



<u>Carlsbad organizations address youth mental health and coping</u> <u>strategies amidst COVID-19</u>

The Cavern City Child Advocacy Center launched a new program to teach children how to address and recognize the many emotions they may be feeling amidst the pandemic. This free program will help prepare kids for the future.

Arrowhead Park students start free math tutoring to support peers through online learning

Two Arrowhead Park Early College High students take initiative to support their community by offering a free math tutoring service to fellow students after seeing their peers struggling in the online learning environment.



<u>Albuquerque groups are helping students through COVID-19 using</u> social-emotional learning

Future Focused Education and the Leadership Schools Network have collaborated for years to find new ways for social-emotional learning,

allowing them to be more prepared for the stresses that online learning puts on students.

Las Cruces, Hatch superintendents address high failure rates

Online learning has added a new level of challenges to students, leading to higher rates of failing grades in Doña Ana County. Superintendents in the county discuss why this is happening and what they plan to do to boost grades in the future.

<u>Parents transition to at-home schooling as they seek stability for their</u> <u>children's education</u>

Families turn to at-home learning as an alternative to the public school system due to instability and challenges with learning material that come with public school in the pandemic.

Check back for more education stories about other regions in New Mexico.