## Black Oak Mine Unified School District Distance Learning Summary

## "The California Legislature has provided flexibility to school districts, but advises districts to provide in-person education to the greatest extent possible."

The Black Oak Mine Unified School District is committed to providing excellence in education under even these most difficult circumstances. This includes bringing students back to school in the safest and most traditional manner possible; therefore, we are reopening our schools 5 days a week for all students. While opening in a "traditional" manner, all schools sites will have exhaustive protocols and practices in place that maximize the safety of students and staff. In all likelihood, this will include Personal Protective Equipment (face masks) for all staff and students. We also recognize that some families will not feel comfortable returning their students to school, regardless of the safety measures we have in place. For these families, we are providing a Distance Learning option.

To be clear, the best opportunity for increased student academic achievement exists within a classroom based program. Nevertheless, the District is offering a Distance Learning program that is rigorous and, to the extent possible, is equivalent to classroom instruction.

For the 2020-2021 school year, in addition to a traditional 5-day a week program, the District is offering Distance Learning in the following manner:

- **Georgetown School of Innovation** is already a project-based school, utilizing a Learning Management System (<u>ECHO</u>) that will be used to facilitate Distance Learning.
- Northside STEAM School will utilize Edgenuity, an online Learning Management System for students in grades TK-6.
- **Golden Sierra Junior Senior High School** will utilize Edgenuity for students in grades 7 & 8 and <u>UCScout</u> for students in grades 9 12.
- **Otter Creek School** will utilize Edgenuity, an online Learning Management System for students in grades TK-6.
- American River Charter School already offers an Independent Study program.
- Divide Continuation High School will continue to utilize Edgenuity.

While the best opportunity for increased student academic achievement exists within a traditional classroom based program, the District has done a tremendous amount of work to identify the very best Learning Management Systems. <u>ECHO, Edgenuity</u>, and <u>UCScout</u> are user-friendly and academically rigorous. The State of California has set a very high bar for Distance Learning and these products address those expectations. For Distance Learning, it is important for families to consider the extent to which they are able to provide student support during normal school hours and the extent to which the student is likely to be successful in a Distance Learning model. A Distance Learning contract will be required for each student.

We appreciate that this is a big decision to make. Please take the time to review all that the District is doing to ensure the safety of students and staff as a part of our "traditional" program prior to making your decision. Parents electing Distance Learning must do so by Friday, July 31, 2020. Please contact:

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