Safety Matters

(Rebecca Rappold Assistant Principal)

With the preparation and planning of our SLT in August, we were able to make a smooth transition to full-time remote work beginning September 28th to ensure the safety of our staff in light of COVID-19. Our teachers are working to continue video instruction by recording lessons at home and packet distribution is occurring via email with adaptations to practice skills without printing packets. Our entire staff is genuinely grateful for the decision-making of the school board to ensure our safety and the safety of our students and families.

Positives:

KW/Vina has diligently worked to continue our structures of regular SLT meetings, professional development, grade-level meetings, and coaching cycles. Our staff is mastering the use of technology and many new virtual tools and platforms. We are so grateful for their willingness to learn!

Challenges:

It continues to be a challenge without I-pads for our students. Instruction could begin virtually with small group instruction in our primary grades classrooms if students had devices. We look forward to having technology in the hands of our students.

Attendance Matters

(Rebecca Rappold Assistant Principal)

Each week our KW/Vina teachers are continuing to engage students in remote learning through weekly family contacts via telephone and paper packet distribution.

CONNECTION and ENGAGEMENT continue to be tracked on our attendance spreadsheet by our classroom teachers.

During September, we saw a decline in our packet distribution rates.

September Paper Packet Distribution Rates at KW/Vina:

Week 1: (8/31/20)	71%
Week 2: (9/8/2020)	57%
Week 3: (9/14/2020)	59%
Week 4: (9/21/2020)	41%



We hope to increase engagement with students and families once Ipads can be distributed and the SeeSaw platform is accessible for daily instruction.



(Brandy Bremner PreK & Kindergarten Instructional Coach)

For teachers, this first month of school has entailed a lot of learning. Initially, it was professional development around new programs and platforms that are being implemented this year. Without the return to face to face instruction, teachers are now learning how to instruct in a different way.

Our staff are making instructional videos that will be uploaded to the SeeSaw platform for students to receive instruction and respond via student ipads. Teachers have had to learn the entire videoing process, how to video, how to compress videos, how to edit videos, and how to upload videos.

They've had to learn how to collaborate with others in a virtual environment. This includes, setting up Google meetings, sharing your screen, using multiple devices, and sharing group planning documents.

Within the videoing process, teachers have had to maintain a strong Instructional Lesson Framework as well as learn how to embed routines, engagement strategies, explicit language, and modeling in different ways than you do in the classroom. Wait time takes on a whole different meaning when you're videoing a lesson in an empty room.

As we get stronger in our new processes, we continually want to get better and more effective. These teachers have met that challenge and are more than willing to continue learning new ways of teaching in a remote environment.

(Nicole Whitney First Grade Instructional Coach)

This past month, our first grade team has excelled in their development of asynchronous video lessons. Each week, content teams have been planning together and working out each part of their lessons to be efficient and effective in video form. Now that the teachers have gotten down the frameworks of their lessons, and understand how to plan their videos, we are moving into enhancing the lessons with the consistent use of engaging language like questioning, confirmations/feedback, deposits, and thinking aloud. As unnatural as it feels talking to a camera, asking a camera questions, and giving a camera

deposits, these are the skills that make a video more engaging for young children, and our teachers are working hard to incorporate as much of this as possible in their videos. With the arrival of our iPads, we will be shifting our focus in the upcoming month to developing effective synchronous small group lessons that are engaging and predictable. We are excited to be able to distribute the iPads when it is safe to do so, and in the meantime, we are putting everything we've got into our asynchronous video lessons. Our KW/Vina team is working so hard, and I am so impressed with the grace they have shown in adapting to this new way of teaching.

Culture Matters (School Climate)

(Shaylea Tatsey First Grade BNAS)

The first grade kids have learned the foundations of a tipi and protocols that refer back to classroom rules and respect. How to introduce themselves in the language as well as learn family member titles. We learned about the Blackfoot Confederacy and "Where I come from?" - learning the names of locations/places in the Blackfoot language while taking a virtual road trip. During Native American week, I sent home virtual days they could dress up or play, such as ribbon skirt/ribbon shirt, favorite beadwork, moccasin and braid day, and of course red/black/white day in honor of the homecoming we should have had. I also sent home a puppet template with plumes and googly eyes kids could decorate in their best Pow-Wow outfit.

(Jocelyn Big Throat PreK and K BNAS)

Starting out in remote learning has been a challenge. I have been doing all my lessons by recording them and they have been being uploaded to our learning platform called Seesaw.

The lesson videos I have recorded are learning how to introduce yourself, and how to introduce your family members. Also season, month, numbers, colors, and kinship terms. I have had to learn to use these technologies fast, but I am learning to use technology more with lessons. I miss the students in class, but hope they are all doing well.

(Bonnie Roberts ParaProfessionals Team Leader)

The month of September has flown by for the paraprofessionals at the KW/Vina. We greeted the parents with a smile as we distributed the homework packets each Tuesday and Thursday. We were excited to catch glimpses of our students in the backseat of the

cars. We helped prepare our gymnasiums at th KW and the Vina for the benchmark assessments. Individual cubicles were created for safe testing, and we tried to make them welcoming for our little ones with posters and picture backdrops. With our remote learning, testing has become more of a challenge. We have worked diligently to contact parents to schedule our WIDA (language assessment) testing via the telephone for the first week of October. The para's will conduct this assessment. With extensive training we are confident in this new method of assessment. We are looking forward to the challenges that October will bring.







(Ruth Shea PreK Team Leader)

As we complete our first month of online learning, we are working diligently to provide meaningful lessons to our little ones. We have sent home 4 learning packets: the first week was All About Me, the second week was on Our Families, and the next 2 weeks introduced our classes to their 5 senses. Our 5th packet was sent to email addresses this week because of the lockdown. This packet contained "seasonal" activities including some fingerplays, counting and an Art project. If parents did not have printing capabilities, they were instructed to do the activities orally. We were able to get all but about 3 students assessed using the Dial-4 this month. We will need to schedule another day in Oct to get the rest of the students as all of the slots were full on the 3 days of assessing. We have not analyzed all of the data but it is scored, recorded and ready to analyze when it is appropriate. It was so uplifting to meet our new students and spend a little time with them. All relevant PPE protocols were strictly followed during the assessments. Our energy now is being directed to creating the best lessons we can and videoing lessons for our students to watch when Ipads are distributed. This year is a challenge for sure but teachers have always been good at rising to teaching challenges.



This AM I received an email from a parent thanking me for sending her child their packet for the week by email. She also went on to tell me what they have been doing each week in regards to school. Reading this email made my whole day even though it is early. I have been truly struggling with how disconnected I feel from everything. I miss being with the kids, I miss being with my coworkers, I miss circle time, & all the fun we had. Although I truly thank BPS for the safety net they have provided our students & employees. We are all in this together!

This virus happened to all of us. We are all doing our best. Teachers have gone into high gear to learn new ways, new technologies and new styles of teaching! Let's support them, thank them, and remember they often have children too. This is new for everyone.

(Kelley Sharp Kindergarten Team Leader)

This has been an interesting start to the year. Kindergarten teachers have been making videos to upload to seesaw on the i-pads. The T.A.s and paras have been distributing homework packets that the Kindergarten team put together. We are getting ready to distribute the I-pads. We are just waiting on the cases. We are staying in contact with parents weekly on distribution and upcoming testing that has to be completed. October is a new month and kids are excited for fall and Halloween.

(Betty Brock First Grade Team Leader)

The first grade team at Vina Chattin has continued to learn more and more about instructional video teaching. Trying to make the students and parents experience more personal and easier to feel connected to their teachers.

We are still continuing making family connections and engagements every week making sure our students are doing well.

The First Grade team have participated in Eureka Math, ELA and Self Care PDs. Vina Chatting has learned to be very flexible during these uncertain times. We are working very hard with making sure that every student can do their learning through technology or paper form while discussing alternative packet ideas as a team.

Lots of plans that were made were changed or canceled due to COVID but we hope to be able to move forward soon. Vina Chattin has focused on the safety of our students and our staff every step of the way and will continue to do so.

We are very thankful for all the support we get.

(Tammy Hall-Reagan Guidance Counselor)

The Month September we continued delivering student services and education remotely. In the counseling center, we have provided weekly student academic packet distribution and delivery to teachers.

The student counseling situation is stable, we have had one referral for alta care services and all other students are doing well.

I continue set up and chair my first counseling department meeting. We discuss our work with students in the counseling realm.

To date I have recorded two of the feeling buddy curriculum social emotional lessons and successfully uploaded them to google drive for Seesaw distribution. The content of the lessons are emotion recognition; happy, sad, angry and scared.

I am coordinating yearly 504's for students needing updates Stay Well....