Learning and Adapting through COVID: Success Stories from Elk Grove Adult and Community Education

Patricia Oliva  Vice Principal
Priscela Perez  Admissions Representative
Carla Slowiczek  ESL Resource Teacher

January 13, 2021
Sacramento, California
EGACE Founded in 1961:

- High School Diploma and US Citizenship classes
- Native speakers, Hispanic and Portuguese speakers
- Started with 83 adults (currently serving 857 adults)

8401 Gerber Road, Sacramento, 95828
916-686-7717

Main campus on Gerber Road
Student Demographics

2,224 Students Served 2019-20

Enrollment by Program Area

- English Language Acquisition: 53%
- Basic Skills/Adult Secondary: 29%
- Short-Term Career Education: 17%
- Adults with Disabilities: 1%

Gender

- Female: 66%
- Male: 20%
- Unspecified: 14%

Age

- 18 - 29 yrs: 26%
- 30 - 39 yrs: 26%
- 40 - 49 yrs: 21%
- 50 - 59 yrs: 11%
- 60+ yrs: 4%

56% of students are between 18 and 39 years of age.

Women represent 7 of every 10 students.
Remote Testing Overview

1. Chose least complicated approaches for us (based on input from staff)
   - 1:1 Remote Control
   - 1:1 Oral Responses
   - Face-to-face: In-person at main campus (following EGUSD and County Health Department protocols)

2. Established Remote Proctor Team and Coordinated Trainings
   - Diverse staff from all departments

3. Determined Testing Incentives
   - ESL – All students with a pre-test received a consumable copy of Ventures textbook
   - HSE students with pre and post-test that made a gain earned a free GED Test voucher
Remote Testing

4. Scheduled Students for Pre-Testing
   • Staggered by program and levels
   • Returning students
   • New students

5. Collected Feedback and Began Planning for Post-Testing
   • Reviewed process – what worked and what didn’t
   • How can we improve the experience for students?
   • Schedule Post-testing

6. Scheduled Students for Post-Testing
   • Staggered by program and levels
   • Test Continuing and promoting students

Ideas for Post-Testing

• Involve teachers - they have a lot of pull with their students
• Confirm appointments the day before (phone call)
• Repeat incentives for ASE & ESL
• Communicate with the team
• Keep a positive outlook and smile!
EGACE Remote Proctor Team

Susan Brown
Richard Cruz
Dan Davis – Lead Proctor CTE
Terri Hartman – Lead Proctor ASE
Kate Hoime
Mandy Kaur – Lead Proctor ESL
Larry Lim
Monica Mercado
Paloma Oliva
Patricia Oliva
Leonela Perez
Priscela Perez – Lead Proctor ASE/ESL
Therese Schultz
Carla Slowiczek
Judy Vu
Hashim Zahir
Training for EGACE Team

CASAS Support
- Webinars
- Videos
- Remote Proctor Certification Training
- Studied Guidelines for 1:1 Remote Control

Collaborations
- Meetings and feedback from proctor team
- Practiced from campus
- Practiced from home
- Practiced during the day
- Practiced during the evening
- On desktops
- On laptops
Pre-Testing Schedule

- Shared Spreadsheet in Google Drive
- Each proctor had a dedicated page/tab
- Each proctor was assigned a class roster
- Proctors made phone calls to set up appointments and check tech access
Pre-Testing Schedule

- Schedule example: Mandy - Lead Proctor for ESL
- Practiced with team members as they came on board
- Proctors collaborated with team members to accommodate any changes to testing appointments

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<th>Testing Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Student Name</th>
<th>Student ID</th>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>Zoom Invites</th>
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Pre-Testing Timeline

- Advanced ESL: Aug 17 - Aug 31
- Intermediate High ESL: Aug 19 - Sep 2
- Intermediate Low ESL: Aug 20 - Sep 14
- Beginning High ESL: Aug 27 - Sep 7
- Beginning Low ESL: Aug 10 - Sep 11

2020 Timeline:
- Aug 17 - Sep 30: ABE/ASE
- Aug 17 - Aug 31: Advanced ESL
- Aug 19 - Sep 2: Intermediate High ESL
- Aug 20 - Sep 14: Intermediate Low ESL
- Aug 27 - Sep 7: Beginning High ESL
- Aug 10 - Sep 11: Beginning Low ESL

Testing Format:
- Primarily Face-to-Face In-Person
- Primarily 1:1 Remote Control

2020
New Student Registration

Changes to Student In-Take Process:

- Created fillable PDF registration form
- Potential students completed PDF remotely

Adult Secondary Education:

- Google Interest form on EGACE website
- Sent registration forms to interested people
- Potential student met with counselor then was referred to ASE Lead Proctor for pre-testing
New Student Registration

English as a Second Language:

- ASAP appointments for virtual orientation posted on school website
- Sent fillable PDF registration form and a copy of translated (native language) form for reference
  - Potential students completed reg form at home
  - Potential students emailed, sent scans or photos of their reg forms to our Admissions Representatives
- Pre-testing options for students
  - 1:1 remote control
  - In-person at main campus (one-on-one)
Post-Testing Timeline

- **Nov 9 - Dec 18**: ABE/ASE
- **Nov 9 - Nov 16**: Advanced ESL
- **Nov 11 - Nov 17**: Intermediate High ESL
- **Nov 16 - Nov 20**: Intermediate Low ESL
- **Nov 30 - Dec 9**: Beginning High ESL
- **Dec 7 - Dec 15**: Beginning Low ESL

**2020**

- Primarily Face-to-Face In-Person
- Primarily 1:1 Remote Control
Remote Testing Quantitative Data
August – December 2020

605 Participants
Unduplicated

417 with a Pre and Post Test

69% Persister Rate

80% 1:1 Remote Testing

20% In-Person
Qualitative Data: Remote Registration and Testing

What our students said:

“Enrollment from home was easy and convenient.”

“The person giving me the test helped me set up my computer.”

“I always feel nervous taking the test in class, I was not nervous at home.”

“Simple to enroll.”

“Very nice person helped me change my test appointment.”

“I learned new technology.”

“I liked taking the test from home.”
Thank you!

Patricia Oliva  Vice Principal
poliva@egusd.net

Priscela Perez  Admissions Representative
prrperez@egusd.net

Carla Slowiczek  ESL Resource Teacher
cslowicz@egusd.net