

30 Interventions used in the *Getting Patrick Henry Connected Initiative*

Providing Support. Building Trust. Creating Partnerships.

1. VOLUNTEERS

- Cleaned classrooms and closets at the beginning of the school year to help teachers get their classrooms organized
- Delivered school supplies to families who were unable to come to the school building for pickup.
- Assisted in the heavy lifting of old equipment, desks, bookcases, mobile laptop charger cabinets, and broken furniture.
- Helped find “missing” students in the summer months.
- Made weekly attendance calls to remind children to login or come to school, and identify/report barriers hindering school attendance to Principal.
- Visited remote-learning teachers to see what assistance they needed.
- Paired with Patrick Henry staff to conduct “porch visits” to families, and troubleshoot technology issues.
- Called Patrick Henry families to remind them of in-person requirements for MAP testing (Missouri Assessment Program).
- Two local universities documented all interventions to share locally and nationally in a case study and a “workbook” of activities and questions.

2. COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

- **LaunchCode** (a nonprofit that helps people learn to code, secure employment in coding, and hire tech talent) developed an iPad training manual for parents. Parent training sessions gave parents the knowledge and confidence to support their children’s remote education on iPads.
- **The St. Louis Fire Department.** After teachers heard ‘chirping’ in the background, the Fire Department replaced dead batteries in existing smoke detectors and installed new smoke detectors in 25 households that did not have them.
- **Urban Strategies, Inc. (USI)** assessed the needs of 35 households who lived in USI subsidized housing and HW! provided them with school supplies, food, connection to medical care, diapers, utility assistance, and hotspots.
- **The L.I.F.E. Foundation** supported the development of a ‘home library’ of 4-6 books and activities for three virtual classrooms (~ 65 students).
- **St. Louis Police Department.** After gun violence near the school, officers visited every classroom to talk and answer questions, and then returned with police cars for students in all grades to explore.
- **Schnucks and Greenleaf Market** donated \$10 Gift Card incentives for perfect weekly attendance. They worked so well that Patrick Henry was able to have summer school for the first time in many years, and then had the seventh highest attendance of all elementary summer schools.

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3. NEW SCHOOL-WIDE PROGRAMS

- **Virtual School Orientation Training:** provided a stipend and food to families for attending iPad training.
- **Microsoft Teams Training:** provided additional one-on-one support for teachers.
- **Needs Assessment Surveys:** parents and staff were surveyed to assess challenges and concerns with virtual learning, and needs were met.
- **Weekly Text Messaging:** made every Sunday evening to all families, reminding them of the importance of attendance.
- **“Buddy Reading” program:** trained, vetted, and partnered with community volunteers and the school reading specialist to read books virtually at a mutually convenient time twice a week.
- **Parent Group:** hosted a Zoom call every two weeks to build relationships and lay the groundwork to develop their first ever school PTO.
- **Parent Resource Room:** for parents to bond, meet with teachers, and find materials and information on how to support their child.

4. NEW RESOURCES

- **Hotspots** provided to families without internet access.
- **School supplies** for students learning at home, including headphones, pencil sharpeners, books, and school supplies.
- **Supplies for classroom teaching & learning,** including iPad stands (for teachers to teach virtually and students to use at home), and water bottles.
- **Rugs** supplied to classrooms so the teacher and students had a place to gather and read together.
- **iPads** to support the Buddy Reading Program.
- **Desks** provided and delivered to 43 students who did not have a dedicated workspace in their homes.
- **Flyers and enrollment information** to parents to encourage summer school and summer camp enrollment.