La Reina Rises to the Covid-19 Challenge

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La Reina Learning Continues During Campus Closure - Originally published in the Conejo Valley Lifestyle magazine

Facing unprecedented challenges posed by the Coronavirus, the La Reina community has risen with indomitable spirit and resilience. On Tuesday, March 17, all La Reina students and faculty successfully transitioned to Distance Learning.

La Reina has never been better prepared to respond to a crisis. The school's instructional framework had already been markedly changed this year by a powerful and engaging new principal, Maggie Marschner. Through close collaboration with La Reina's faculty, students have been empowered to take ownership of their education. Marschner's leadership combined with in-depth professional development designed to reach all learners' needs, and having recently invested in a dynamic, new student learning management system helped position La Reina to seamlessly transition to Distance Learning. The school experienced 100% attendance from day one.

Distance Learning offers students direct instruction by La Reina's faculty on an online platform. It is an opportunity for teachers to innovate and embrace creative new ways of engaging their students.

To nurture the social-emotional health of the young women La Reina serves, a pop-up program, Student Life and Counseling, was designed by La Reina's Director of Guidance & Counseling, Mindy Hobmann, LMFT, and Dean of Student Life, Emily Beutner, in partnership with La Reina Associated Student Body.

"During these difficult times, we believe it is important to respond to the social-emotional needs of our students with opportunities to practice self-care, interact with their classmates online, be creative and have a little fun," says Hobmann.

La Reina's faculty remain committed to a student-centered experience while delivering on La Reina's promise as an exceptional institution of education and discovery. The transition to Distance Learning has received praise from parents:

"We have been thrilled with La Reina's response. Your schedule is providing structure for the rest of our family."

"In the midst of all the craziness, this distance learning has been really great. It's a fun shift in learning for the girls and they've having a good time with it."

"Thank you for working so hard to implement the online learning so that learning and a sense of community can continue."

La Reina is thrilled to be able to continue meaningfully educating and caring for our students taking care to safeguard their health and that of their families.

"We eagerly look forward to our students' return to campus. In the meantime, we are grateful to all our partners in education for embracing this as a time of continued growth and innovation at La Reina," states Principal Marschner.

La Reina is a Catholic, college preparatory middle school and high school for girls in Grades 6 through 12. Established in 1964 and sponsored by the Sisters of Notre Dame, La Reina provides a strong spiritual and academic foundation in a nurturing environment. Extensive information about La Reina is available at <u>LaReina.com</u>.