

To: County Student Services/School Counselor Administrators
From: Dr. Jami Parsons, COELSC Co-Chair, Director, Orange County Department of Education
Denise Cabanilla, COELSC Co-Chair, Director, Imperial County Office of Education
Date: March 26, 2020
RE: School Counselor Virtual Tool Kit

Educators across the state have acted quickly, shifting practices to meet the educational needs of students in new ways. This is a time of challenge, and uncertainty, but also triumph as we find new ways to support our students and families in this new context. Across counties in California, school counselors are providing services utilizing a variety of means and varying levels of technology as they work to find the best ways to connect and communicate with students and families. We know that connecting and supporting your students is *the top priority*.

Statewide leaders from the County Offices of Education Leadership for School Counseling (COELSC) network partnered with the California Association of School Counselors (CASC) and Hatching Results, LLC to prepare a [School Counselor Virtual Tool Kit](#) with resources that K-12 School Counselors can use to navigate this new reality. The toolkit topics include resources that support:

- [Lessons and materials to address each ASCA Domain](#): online resources for developing virtual lessons/activities as well as information to share with students and families
- [K-12 School Counselor Professional Development](#): links to free to online professional development opportunities
- [Creating Your Virtual School Counseling Program](#): tools and resources to build your virtual school counseling program
- [COVID-19 Related Resources](#): links to the most current information from education related companies and institutions such as CollegeBoard, ACT, University of California, etc.
- [Mental and Physical Health](#): coping strategies and resources to share with students, staff and families
- [Communication to Families: Letter template for Families/Students](#): Sample letter to families/students to inform and make your services visible.

In partnership with your district and school site leaders, we encourage you to utilize the tools and resources provided to you and to develop your plans to meet students' needs. As we plan for different scenarios during the closures, it may be helpful to consider the variety of platforms available and noted as viable [distance learning](#) options from the CDE.

Now more than ever, school counseling services and resources are needed for all students. School counselors are especially equipped to support students' and families' academic, college/career and social/emotional needs. Now is the time, school counselors are ready, and we are here to support you!!

Please insert your contact information here.

