



CDCR DLAC Mid-Project Report

MAY 19, 2023

CDCR Agency Overview

▶ CDCR's Mission

- ▶ To facilitate the successful reintegration of the individuals in our care back to their communities equipped with the tools to be drug-free, healthy, and employable members of society by providing education, treatment, rehabilitative, and restorative justice programs, all in a safe and humane environment.

▶ CDCR's Vision

- ▶ We enhance public safety and promote successful community reintegration through education, treatment, and active participation in rehabilitative and restorative justice programs.

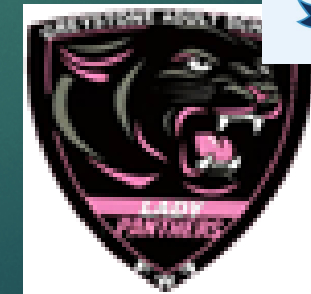
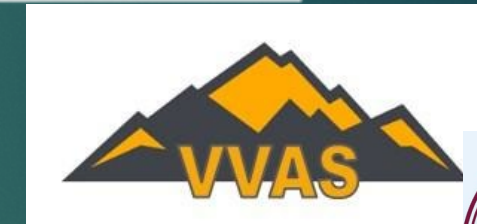


Why Do We Do What We Do?



CDCR Agency Overview

- ▶ **31 accredited adult schools**
- ▶ **37,000+ students**
 - ▶ Adult basic education
 - ▶ High school diploma
 - ▶ High school equivalency
 - ▶ Vocational education
 - ▶ College programs
 - ▶ Transitional education
- ▶ **More than 1,000 staff members**



DLAC Team Members

Coach: **Marian Thatcher**

▶ **Dr. R. Lynne Ruvalcaba, Ed.D.**

- ▶ Administrator, Educational Technology
- ▶ Office of Correctional Education

▶ **Patrick O'Neill**

- ▶ Supervisor of Academic Instruction
- ▶ Office of Correctional Education

▶ **Erin Case**

- ▶ IT Manager I
- ▶ Incarcerated Population & Community Services

▶ **Bryan Boel**

- ▶ Peer Literacy Mentor Program Teacher
- ▶ Valley State Adult School
- ▶ Valley State Prison

▶ **John Richards**

- ▶ Academic Teacher
- ▶ Tsunami Adult School
- ▶ Pelican Bay State Prison

▶ **Vera Valdivia-Abdallah**

- ▶ GED Teacher
- ▶ New Horizon Adult School
- ▶ California State Prison, Lancaster

IDEAL 101 and DLAC Goals

- ▶ CDCR was not a perfect fit for IDEAL 101
- ▶ One site vs. many
- ▶ OTAN/CDCR collaboration for divergence from the course
- ▶ Focused on assessing tech needs, “distance” learning in CDCR, creating a vision, and identifying barriers
- ▶ Created 3 site plans and a strategic plan draft
- ▶ Novel approach to IDEAL 101 allowed CDCR to achieve our goals

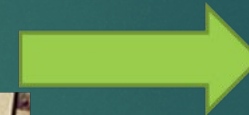


IDEAL 101

Foundations of Distance Education and
Blended Learning

DLAC Accomplishments to Date

- ▶ Creation of three school site plans
 - ▶ New Horizon Adult School
 - ▶ Tsunami Adult School
 - ▶ Valley Adult School
- ▶ Creation of a draft strategic plan for OCE
- ▶ Solicitation for an Educational Technology Advisory Committee



Teambuilding Skills

- ▶ Multidisciplinary team includes teachers, administrators, and a representative from IT
- ▶ Shared leadership
- ▶ Ways to work with our safety and security needs rather than find them to be barriers
- ▶ Greater understanding of what each site needs and the unique nature of corrections



Handling Conflict

- ▶ Minimal conflict to date
- ▶ Reschedule meetings as necessary
- ▶ Value each team member's time and adjust our approach accordingly
- ▶ New coach has provided focus and an ability to utilize our limited time together wisely



Communication Skills

Microsoft



- ▶ Virtual meetings via Teams between times when we could meet in person
- ▶ Extensive use of email and Teams messaging to keep in touch
- ▶ Every person contributes, provides feedback, and has value in the process
- ▶ Leveraged strengths of team members to “step up” and “step back” as necessary

Challenges, Barriers, and Setbacks

- ▶ CDCR is “a round peg in a square hole.”
- ▶ Had to modify IDEAL 101 to meet our needs
- ▶ Shifted our goal and work product to fit CDCR’s model and needs
- ▶ Switched coaches to one more familiar with corrections and the constraints of our safety and security processes



Changes Made

- ▶ Skipped or modified some IDEAL 101 modules
- ▶ Did not produce a site plan
 - ▶ Three site plans
 - ▶ One overarching strategic plan
- ▶ New coach familiar with corrections
- ▶ Temporarily eliminated the standing weekly meeting due to scheduling conflicts



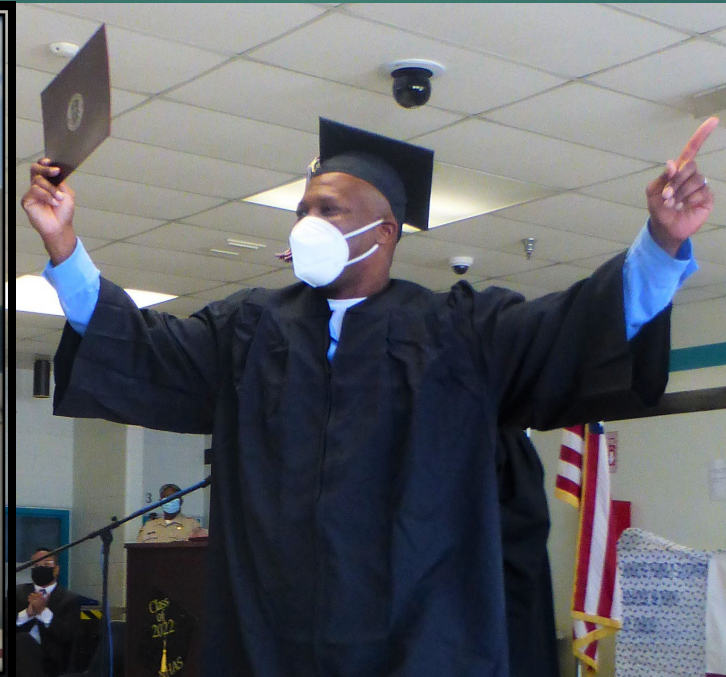
Planned Next Steps



- ▶ Meet with key OCE staff for feedback on the strategic plan
- ▶ Continue refining our draft to address long and short term needs
- ▶ Pilot Northstar for enhanced digital literacy
- ▶ Extend use of etextbooks for certain populations
- ▶ Create templates for site plans to roll out to other sites
- ▶ Select members and begin meetings of the Educational Technology Leadership Team

Additional Support/Help Needed from OTAN

- ▶ Continued support from our new coach
- ▶ Support as we move closer to the Northstar pilot
- ▶ Everyone at OTAN has been amazing!



Summary

- ▶ Our experience has been rewarding and productive
- ▶ Team has overcome logistical barriers to communicate well, utilize strengths, and overcome roadblocks
- ▶ OTAN has allowed us to be flexible and has changed DLAC assignments as needed to ensure our work continues to be relevant and actionable in our high security setting
- ▶ We anticipate completing our Educational Technology Strategic Plan prior to May 2024



Questions?

