NO SCHOOL? NO PROBLEM!

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What do we do when we can’t have school?

- What is an Online Instruction Day?
- Is that the same as an online course?
- How can we get started?
- How do we do this well?
- What are some resources we might need?
- What can we do now to prepare for this?

community.acsi.org/coronavirusresources/home
Schools might have to close

- Talk with local health officials
- If schools are dismissed, have a plan for continuity of education.
- Implement e-learning (Check with state)
- Convert face-to-face lessons to online lessons
- Train teachers

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Colorado Springs Christian Schools: Online Instruction Day

Definitions

- **Online Classes** - a whole course, taught by the semester or year, where the curriculum is delivered entirely online.

- **Online Instruction Day** - one or more days, only used as needed, when instruction continues online, in-between what would otherwise be typical classes in a brick and mortar school.
Allowed in your state?

What are your current capabilities?

**Student Management System (SMS)**
- Renweb
- PowerSchool
- Blackbaud
- Others?

**Learning Management System (LMS)**
- Moodle
- Google Classroom
- Schoology
- Microsoft Teams
- Others?

Identify what you can do with your systems and your personnel.
Typical Online Instruction Day

1. Call the Online Instruction Day by 5:30 am, like a “Delayed Start” (modify for 2-3 weeks)
2. Post instruction by 10 am, or night before
3. Students login and complete work.
   a. K-2 have instruction that can be printed.
   b. Grades 3-5 have a mix, printed and online.
   c. Grades 6-12 can be primarily online with work to be completed offline, (group or independent practice)
   d. Be sensitive to constraints of multi-student families.

What qualifies as “Online instruction?”

- Start training teachers first
- Must be real instruction, not assignments or busywork
- Examples:
  - Textbooks with video teaching, interactive activities, reteaching, or enrichment resources
  - Websites with teaching videos like Khan Academy. Many include quizzes, and review segments.
PowerPoint slides can be saved with narration or video. (adding video creates large files)

**Warning** – copyright issues change with online instruction (copyright free photos, links OK)

Video capture programs, short videos of teaching

Simulations, virtual labs, foreign language sites may be better used individually.

Thousands of educational sites for most topics, locate with a websearch. (See Resource Page)
Make this a classroom experience!

- How about Zoom or Skype?
- Minimize synchronous instruction
- Live instruction, a limited part of the instruction for the upper level student.
- Multiple children in families, one computer
- Must have the ability to record
- Recordings are large, hard to manage.
- Short recorded segments could be used in a unit or lesson. **Should not be the primary delivery mechanism.**

Google Classroom
Assessment

- What is collected and graded, at least for completion, to hold the student accountable for their learning?
- May or may not receive a letter grade

Homework

- Similar to what they would have given in school. Same objectives.

Time spent “in school” is roughly similar to a “Delayed Start” day. School starts at 10 am.

Nuts of bolts of the program

- Students log in to every class = attendance
- Excuse sick students. Had to make-up work.
- Arrangements made for those w/o Internet
- Tech support provided during the day.
- Students kept copies of work submitted.
- Only CORE PLUS teachers post work.
- Don’t forget to add some humor!
- Take care of teachers’ needs.
- Increase communication to parents!
Start gradually

- First, teachers brought students to the computer lab to practice.
- This occurred at least once each new year.
- First two days we had an Online Instruction Day, we gave grace on work completion. This gave parents time to get equipment up to speed or make other arrangements. Helped teachers get comfortable.

What can you do now to prepare?

- Make choices about LMS, environment
- Train teachers on the basics.
- Create practice lessons.
- Have students go to computer lab, log in, complete work.
- Try a similar activity from home, find the “bugs,” and those who lack equipment.
- Create working groups
- Practice computer skills
Success!

- Takes maintenance, training teachers so skills keep growing
- New teachers must be trained
- Positively impacted technology integration and students’ technology skills ALL YEAR LONG!
- **KEY**…must be real instruction!
- Great option for all types of emergencies!

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