

## **Physical Education Teachers Guide to Begin Virtual Classwork**

- **What platform do you need to use?** – Find out what learning management system (LMS), your school or district utilizes. Popular ones are Google Classroom, Schoology, Canvas, and Brightspace. Learn how to house content and assignments on that LMS since your students and parents will be most familiar with that platform.
- **What if we don't have an LMS?** – Create your own website! First, consult your school or district to determine if they have a preferred platform. If not, there are many free website creation platforms, such as Weebly, that don't require knowing HTML or high-level technology skills! Your own website will enable you to post content, assignments, documents, and assessments!
- **How will I collect data and assignments?** – If you have an LMS, there should be an easy way to collect assignments and grade them within the system. If not, you will have to create some method to receive assignments from students during virtual classes.
- **Consider the technology your learners have!** – There's not always equity of access for students to technology in these situations. Reflect on what you know about your student population before creating assignments. You will be able to ask much more of students who have been issued their own devices from school rather than a setting where most students don't have a personal device.
- **What are you going to assess and how?** – This is difficult because we don't know how long the situations across the country will exist. However, you should try to assess based on the standards and learning outcomes as much as possible, rather than just physical activity. For example, I can upload a video of me throwing a ball. The assignment may be for the student to analyze the throw based on four learning cues that I use to teach throwing. This could be written or submitted via video or audio recording.
- **What equipment do students have at home?** – When creating assignments, consider types of equipment students may have at home. Be flexible with what they use to complete activities just like you will need to be with their technology access.
- **Vet your resources carefully!** – There's a lot of information flying around online right now. Evaluate each piece of content to make sure it is standards-based, utilizes research-based teaching practices, and is appropriate for your grade level. Just because it is on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram doesn't mean it uses sound teaching practices.
- **Communicate daily!** – Your students need to see that you are **active** in their learning now more than ever! Pick your platform (blog, website, LMS, social media, etc.) that students need to visit each day to receive announcements, assignments, and information.
- **Hold dedicated "office" hours!** – These probably won't be in a "real" office, but your students will need to know when they can reach you immediately for assistance. They may have questions about an assignment, technical difficulties, or content explained further. Pick some time in the morning, afternoon, and evening and a platform, such as email or Remind, so students know they can get help quickly.