

Virtual cannot replace in person, but this is where we are right now.

Using technology to deliver instruction is not going away

* Government will push to use tech as a delivery message when it makes sense
* Societal Changes

The overarching workshop goal was to present and break down practical strategies that are easily implemented for engaging students in online learning. The workshop was not about specific platforms – you can implement these strategies no matter what platform you are using! The strategies presented presume that emotional and basic needs are met. Those come first, then instructional.

1. Identify challenges

* Connectivity
* Relationship building isn’t as easy without face-to-face contact
* Positive peer pressure is missing
* Physical space is absent which would usually provide context for instruction (zone in is difficult)
* There is parent interference in a student’s schedule – chores or babysitting
* Parents need to vent. Educators have become that person that listens
* Privacy issues of being “in” the student’s home via Zoom
* Students don’t understand the technology
* Work isn’t tangible, so it’s hard to keep students accountable.
* Migrant Educator has become the expected “expert”! That is stressful because we don’t have all the answers.
* Language barrier
* Multiple devices being used at the same time
* Students are not expert in navigating the web. It's frustrating for them and for me as the educator. Some students arrived recently in the country.
* As an outsider looking in on student assignments, and when it has been awhile since studying the topic, it can be even more difficult virtually!
* Parent interaction with Migrant Educator is less, so there is a feeling of disconnection
* Even when instructions are in Spanish, much of this is a new world for our parents!

YOU CAN ONLY DO WHAT YOU CAN DO!!

We had a tech glitch! Laura had a brief power outage! When she returned, she shared a fun saying that her mom used to say: Let’s get back where we was before we are where we is!

**Start with an engaging activity**

* Unexpected
* Relevant
* Timely
* Something that activates prior knowledge

**It ain’t what you do, it’s the way that you do it!**

* Your demeanor – How you interact virtually, is completely different that how you do interact in person.
* You have to become more animated! Use gestures and hand cues
* This is different for older and younger children
* Get them involved right from the minute they join! Hiiiiiiiiii, virtual hug!
* High energy doesn’t necessarily mean high volume. Adjust to the student.

**Control the learning environment as much as possible**

* Props: Mr. Pupper-dog!
* Developmentally appropriate! (but still have fun with it!!)
* Christmas lights, flashlights, changing hats!
* Use what you have!

**Best Practices:**  We can’t let go of the things we know works just because we are using a different delivery method!

* Growth mindset – You don’t have to know everything. You just haven’t learned it **YET.** Work through the struggle. Be careful HOW you praise them. Focus the praise and be specific about how hard a student worked. Praise the process that they went through.
* Activate prior knowledge – do an anticipatory set before you get started.
* KWL chart: 3- column Chart 1. Know 2. Want to learn 3. What you’ve learned
* Model out loud: Laying out what you will accomplish,

**Empowerment and Ownership**

* Know where your student is academically and developmentally - Zone of proximal development – if they can do it, it may be too easy. If they can do it with your help – that’s where you want to be!
* Give students choice – example: provide a choice in activity of how to learn!
* Let students evaluate their performance for the lesson – and then, let them evaluate you with guided questions! Student reveal their learning style by evaluating you!
* Help parents create supportive learning environments. Help them control what they can control. Use an old suitcase and let the kids decorate it. Make a portable suitcase classroom! Post it notes from parents for encouragement.
* School in the cloud – Students read about what they want to read about!

**Discussion of ideas**

* Picture idea
* I spy through text

**Resources:**

**TED Talk Resource**<https://www.ted.com/talks/sugata_mitra_build_a_school_in_the_cloud>

Laura described a TED Talk about building a school in the cloud.

**Wheel Decide** - <https://wheeldecide.com/>

Use one of the many existing wheels or you can create your own wheel based on the lesson content and objectives.

**Boom Cards** - <https://wow.boomlearning.com/>

Allows the user to create classrooms, assign “homework”, and progress monitor as well as complete the cards real time.

**Ziteboard -** <https://ziteboard.com/>

This is a virtual interactive whiteboard. You can write a problem on the board, the student sees it in real time and can write their answer for you to see.