Distance Learning Resources

August 27, 2020

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Agenda

- Announcements
- Distance Learning Resources
- Questions

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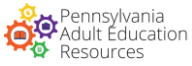8/27/2020

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Announcements

- Change to compulsory school age
- Division webinars
  - Sep. 3 is last weekly webinar
  - Sep. 17: begin webinars every other week
  - Sep. bimonthly webinar cancelled
- PDS Friday lunchtime webinars
  - Start next Friday, Sep. 4, eData
  - 2nd Friday, IHPDS; 3rd Friday, DL/Dig Lit; 4th Friday Workforce/Student Support
  - Schedule and links in portal

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How Did We Get Here?

- Summer 2018 – Requirement to offer online SDL

- Summer 2019
  - Approximately 6% of enrolled learners did SDL.
  - Goal: Improve participation.

- March 2019 (pre-pandemic)
  - Approximately 10% participation.
  - 60% of agencies increased participation rate by 50%.
  - 35% of agencies increased participation rate by 100%.

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Today

PA adult education programs:
- Offering webinar classes.
- Offering online SDL.
- Offering print SDL.
- Conducting remote intake/orientation.
- Proctoring Tests Remotely.

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Remote Proctoring

- Remote proctoring guidelines developed by specific test publishers to ensure security.
  - Urgency to meet COVID-19-related need.
  - Inconsistencies in approaches by TABE/CASAS.
  - Relied on using current online versions of assessments.

- PA piloted protocols to ensure guidelines were clear and led to smooth testing process for students.
  - Best Plus – Literacy Pittsburgh.
  - CASAS – Community Learning Center, IU 5.
  - TABE – TIU 11, LLIU 13.

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Austin (Texas) Community College

- On pace to assess 500+ students by August 31.
- Process includes:
  - Host greets students, checks test readiness (audio, video and environment), then moves them to a private testing breakout room.
  - Proctor verifies student identity & administer test.
  - Has separate breakout room for tech support.
- Staffing:
  - One test administrator.
  - Four proctors.
  - One tech support.
- Will schedule seven students per hour.

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Approved SDL Resources

- Approved resources listed in Policy D.130.

- Requesting approval for new resources.
  - PA Adult Education Resource DL page.
  - Same form for online and print resources.

- Biggest issue:
  - Online resources with no time-on-task reports.

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Online ESL Resources

- Eleven resources currently approved.

- Most align to ELPS:
  - 1: Construct meaning from oral presentations and text ...
  - 8: Determine the meaning of words and phrases ...
  - 10: Demonstrate command of conventions of English ...

- Four resources approved for ABE/ASE:
  - Khan Academy
  - New Readers Press Online
  - Newsela Pro
  - Reading Horizons

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Online ESL Resources

- USA Learns (and Khan Academy) – Free.

- Cell-Ed
  - Developed for mobile phones. (Do not have to be smart.)
  - Time-on-task reports by vendor.

- Voxy
  - Contextualized for various workplaces/occupations.
  - Expensive

- DLP uses USA Learns, Khan Academy, and Burlington English.

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Online ABE/ASE Resources

- Seventeen Resources Currently Approved.
  - Note: Multiple resources by same publisher counted once.

- "Alignment" to CCRS.
  - Not all resources cover all subjects and levels.

- Read Theory.
  - Only online resource using teacher verification.

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Online ABE/ASE Resources

- Khan Academy – Free.

- Essential Education Products.
  - Talking characters in classroom setting.

- IXL – Excellent for student mastery.

- Learning Upgrade - XPRIZE winner.

- DLP uses Khan Academy, Edmentum Courseware, and Fast Forward.

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Print Resources

- Nine resources currently approved.

- Five resources currently being evaluated.

- Biggest needs: ESL and low-level ABE.
  - Challenging with text-heavy print resources.

- California Distance Learning Project.
  - Website currently down.
  - Outstanding instructionally – developed for DL.

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Use of Print Resources

- Develop structure/guide to support learners use.
  - What to work on.
  - What to submit.
  - Syllabus providing link to classroom activities.

- Ways to obtain student assignments.
  - US Mail – DLP provides addressed, stamped envelopes.
  - Text/email photos of work.
  - Dropbox.

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Coming Soon!

Approval of Teacher-Generated Distance Resources

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Timeline

- Currently finalizing rubric for approval.
  - Organization of content to support DL.
  - Instructional quality.

- Need to develop submission process.

- Webinar will be offered to explain requirements and submission process.

- Plan to launch in October.

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Considerations for Use

- Activities around OERs.
  - Ex: ReadWorks.
  - Print resources.

- Teacher-generated resources.

- Use of LMS.

- Project-based learning.

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Agency Tech Planning

- Located on PA Adult Education Resources website.

- Webinars to support four areas of focus:
  - Communication   September 15th
  - Student Intake and Orientation   September 29th
  - Instruction webinar   October 13th
  - Program Management   October 27th

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Questions

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Contact/Mission

For more information on Adult Education and Family Literacy please visit PDE's website at www.education.pa.gov

The mission of the Department of Education is to ensure that every learner has access to a world-class education system that academically prepares children and adults to succeed as productive citizens. Further, the Department seeks to establish a culture that is committed to improving opportunities throughout the commonwealth by ensuring that technical support, resources, and optimal learning environments are available for all students, whether children or adults.

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