

Week of July 6 Communication--Common Terminology and Canvas

Understanding common terminology is a best practice as we navigate the options and expectations for student learning modes heading into the 2020-21 school year. As such, we have provided the following table to outline the differences between a brick-and-mortar education and distance education. Also included are the characteristics of the hybrid/remote modes of learning as opposed to an online/virtual mode.

Terminology for the purpose of common understanding and discussions:

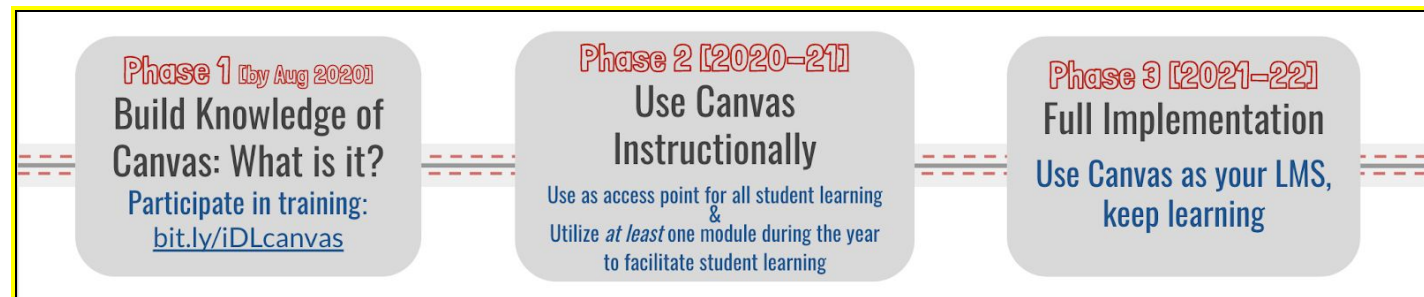
| Brick-and-Mortar Education | Distance Education | |
|--|---|---|
| In-Person/Face-to-Face | Hybrid/Remote | Online/Virtual |
| Predominantly synchronous* | Mostly synchronous* | Mostly asynchronous |
| Some asynchronous work | Can be asynchronous | Can be synchronous* |
| Daily in-person | Could have in-person | No in-person |
| Foundation is non-tech, but could utilize tech | Foundation is tech, but could utilize non-tech | All tech-based |
| Student-centered learning | Student-centered learning | Student-centered learning |
| EXAMPLE: Learning in a school building | EXAMPLES: Hybrid-Alternating Days; Remote Learning (all students learning at home) | EXAMPLE: CCSD Virtual Academy |

*Synchronous learning refers to a learning event in which a group of participants is engaged in learning at the same time.

Asynchronous learning refers to the opposite. In asynchronous learning, the instructor, the learner, and other participants are not engaged in the learning process at the same time, but they are able to operate within more flexible parameters.



Based on recent feedback from teachers, principals, and families about their experiences in the spring of 2020 as well as research on best practices related to distance learning, there is a need for the 2020-21 school year to streamline the access point for student learning. In response, CCSD has adopted Canvas, a Learning Management System (LMS), to serve as its common platform to facilitate a safe, secure, and streamlined learning environment for all students. The advantage of an LMS is the facilitation of all learning models, as well as the seamless transition between learning models--in-class/face-to-face, blended/remote, and virtual.



Templates are available to assist teachers bridge between Canvas as the initial access point for student learning and other learning platforms, such as Google Classroom or a class website, during the transition during 2020-21.

With Canvas, teachers will have access to a wide range of common resources, digital instructional content, and lessons accessible with just one login. Canvas simplifies lesson building and delivery of instruction by ...

- Supporting learners of every age
- Offering a shared place where teachers can assign, collect, grade, and return students' work and quizzes and tests can be delivered, collected, graded, and returned
- Strengthening communication by providing a common area where teachers can post information and alerts for students
- Providing a platform for students' online discussions, video tools, and virtual classrooms
- Facilitating opportunities for self-pacing and differentiation to meet all students' needs
- Integrating 3rd party apps: myON, Quizlet, YouTube, BrainPop, Flocabulary, StemScopes, FlipGrid, Kahoot, etc.
- Easing the transition for students and teachers from in-class/face-to-face to blended/remote learning (or vice versa) at any point in the school year

As we prepare for the start of school, please check out [this information on training and getting started with Canvas.](#)