

Hello Staff, Students and Families at St. Mary's Visitation School!

The Elm Grove Library is excited to offer a new learning service that provides extra assistance to teachers, students and caregivers this school year. HelpNow, by Brainfuse, is a free, online tutoring and study tool available to anyone with a library card. It offers live online tutoring, a writing lab, test preparation, online meeting spaces, curated lessons and tutorials, customizable teaching tools, and more.

This free online service is intended to supplement and assist students and caregivers, particularly after school hours. HelpNow will be available to all Bridges Library System patrons with a library card from any computer with internet connection starting October 1, 2020.

Below are a few key components of HelpNow available to students, caregivers, and teachers:

- **Live Tutoring:** Students can communicate live with professional tutors from 2:00-11:00 p.m. using an interactive whiteboard to chat, write, draw, copy/paste text or images and graph homework problems.
- **Homework Assistance:** The Writing Lab and the 24/7 Center options give students the freedom to receive assistance outside the live tutoring times. Students can submit papers through the Writing Lab and math or science assignments to the 24/7 Center for detailed feedback from a professional tutor.
- **Study Tools:** LEAP helps patrons build academic skills through targeted lessons and quizzes. Flashbulb is a robust learning resource where students can practice with flashcard activities. Teachers can also create their own flashcard sets for an entire class to use.
- **Collaboration tools:** For students who prefer to work independently and form their own online study group, HelpNow offers a set of collaborative tools including an interactive whiteboard that can be emailed to others for feedback.

Anyone with a CAFE library card can access HelpNow at www.bridgeslibrarysystem.org/helpnow or from the Elm Grove Library website (www.elmgrovelibrary.org). Students or caregivers can get a library card at the Elm Grove Library or by visiting www.getyourlibrarycard.org.

PLEASE NOTE: The Milwaukee County Federated Library System also offers HelpNow so students who live in Milwaukee County can access these resources there with their MCFLS library cards.

Please share this information with your students and their caregivers and let me know if you have any questions about this new service.

Sincerely,

Sue Daniels
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elmgrovelibrary.org