

Learn360 Responds to H1N1 Threat

Challenge

Based on multiple reports from the Center for Disease Control stating a potential for widespread outbreak of H1N1 and other flu viruses, the Department of Education has mandated that districts develop a plan to maintain continuous learning in their schools should they need to close or if a significant percentage of the student population is out due to illness.

Solution

Learn360 is an educational streaming media website designed to engage students in learning via videos, speeches, songs, images, encyclopedia articles and activities. Coupled with teacher-created content and project-based learning activities, full lesson plans that combine multiple media formats can be developed to enrich both the teaching and learning experience.

Once the student names are uploaded into Learn360 and assigned to their various classes or groups, teachers can easily communicate class assignments and activities, track student participation and manage discussions via classroom blogs. Learn360 is accessible to students anywhere they have internet access, making it a wonderful tool for both in-school activities as well as those that need to be communicated outside of the school walls.

Using the Assignment & Quiz Creation Tool, teachers can create multi-media assignments that are easy to distribute to an entire class or to a single student. Assignments and Quizzes are automatically graded making this tool valuable to both students and educators.

To strengthen communication with students and promote continuous learning outside the classroom, Learn360's Blog Creation Tool makes it easy to create an online classroom blog in a secure environment. Teachers can initiate discussions, share information digitally and track participation.

Future

In order to improve Learn360 to continually meet the ever-changing classroom needs of teachers and students, a number of functionality enhancements have been developed. Many will be rolled out throughout the Fall of 2009 to immediately address the needs of schools closing due to H1N1 or any other disruption. These new functionality enhancements are detailed below.

- School Announcement Section: offers a section on each user's sign-in page for school-specific content and information
- Mass Distribution Function: provides districts and/or individual schools the ability to easily disseminate information to all staff, students, or even user-created groups. This

Future, cont.

also provides the ability to send messages, which can contain attachments, and automatically post them to the My Documents section of the site

- Assignment Wizard: an enhancement to the Quiz Creation feature that will enable users to add their own content without the requirement of utilizing a template
- Timed Assignment/Quiz Tool: allows teachers to create an assignment, activity or quiz in advance and activate for student use on a particular date
- Progressive Assignment Tool: enforces completion of one phase of an assignment before additional phases can be accessed
- Advanced Reporting Tools: an enhancement to existing reporting structure, enabling administrators to track assignments accessed, assignments completed, number of times logged in (via addition of time stamps), number of posts by user on discussion boards, etc.

Next Steps

Based on The Department of Education's request for a comprehensive and immediate plan of action to address a potential H1N1 outbreak, Learn360 is fully prepared to fulfill this need and can be implemented quickly and seamlessly. With over 8,000 videos from top educational publishers and a local hosting option available at no additional cost, Learn360 is the most affordable Media Streaming Service available. In addition, Learn360 is backed by a superior Customer Service team and extensive online Help Center. Customers are always ensured exceptional training and ongoing, timely technical support.

We hope no schools have to close. But if they do, we need to make sure that children keep learning.

-Arne Duncan, Secretary of Education