itslearning for Communication & Collaboration

A central place for teachers, students and parents to interact and share

Strengthen school community ties by providing safe spaces for groups of students and teachers to interact outside of normal classroom activities. Create student communities for school clubs, and professional learning communities for teachers to help develop their skills and promote job satisfaction. Keep parents involved in their children’s school lives through a dedicated Parent Portal with automatic updates on academic progress, access to assignments and more.

Teacher to Teacher

Communities: Teachers can use communities to collaborate across the district, by grade level or subject area. Others can join communities for special or pedagogical interests.

Library: Teachers can share resources in the Library, collaborate on shared resources, and rate and review resources.

Resource or Sandbox Courses: Teachers can create special courses with no students where they can collaborate on the design of template courses, units, lessons and assessments.

Teacher to Student

Planner: Teachers use the planner not only to plan, organize and align units and lessons, but also to communicate with other teachers and students.

Bulletins: Post bulletins to students as text, video or audio – viewable on any device, including through our mobile app.

Messages: Send messages to the entire class, one group, or to individuals. Send messages through the recommendation engine, informing students of personalized tasks, or through assignments, reminding them of upcoming due dates.

Rubric and Assessment Feedback: Teachers use rubrics not just to score performance, but to give students concrete, actionable feedback on assignments.

Calendar: Add events on a course calendar that link to a resource, activity or lesson plan. Events automatically display in a student’s mobile app or the device’s calendar.

Task Block on Dashboard: Give students a list of all tasks to complete in order of due date, including personalized tasks.

Student to Student

Within courses:

Discussion Boards: Students can post ideas or collaborate on subjects, using the rich text editor to record audio and video, or embed external media.

Surveys: Students can be given permission to create surveys and analyze results.

Course Group Folders: Groups can have their own course folders to add resources, or communicate through discussion boards, chat and video conferencing.

“We have truly moved forward in our lesson plan design and grade level/content specific communication across the campus. It has been revolutionary because it has changed up the way we communicate and instruct on campus.”

Terence Daniels,
Teacher, Dowling Middle School, TX
Peer Assessments: Teachers can allow students to create tests and assignments, and analyze results. Peer assessments change the role and status of the student from passive learner to active learner and assessor, and involve students in critical reflection.

Bulletin Comments: When a teacher creates a bulletin, students can be given the option to comment, encouraging student voice as a stream of comments.

Outside of courses:
- ePortfolios: Students can self-reflect on learning through ePortfolios, and comment on others’ work.
- Blogs: Students can create blogs and comment on others’ posts.
- Communities: Students can create communities and invite others to join so they can collaborate on projects, special interests, study groups or clubs.
- Messaging: Students can send and receive messages to other students.

Teacher/School to Parent

Parental involvement is a key component of student achievement and success. However, having access to grade and attendance reports isn’t enough. With a dedicated, customizable Parent Portal, parents have simple and secure access to information about all of their children, which makes teacher-parent communication easier than ever.

Tasks: Parents see all tasks assigned to each child aggregated from all courses.

Planner: Parents easily access the course planners; including lessons, resources and activities.

Course Reports: Know how each child is progressing including the Learning Objectives Progress Reports, which tell a better story about student progress than traditional gradebooks.

Individual Learning Plans: See progress each child is making on Individual Learning Plans.

ePortfolios: See student progress, and participate in student-led conferences via ePortfolios.

Polls and Surveys: Allow parents to participate in polls and surveys to ensure that the teacher, school and district have heard the voice of the community.

Parents may also communicate via:
- Messages: Send and receive messages from teachers or administrators, which can auto-forward to a specific email address.
- Communities: Join communities in order to collaborate and communicate about school events, clubs or PTA/PTO groups.
- Courses: Enroll in parent courses and access an aggregated calendar for children, courses and communities.
- School Dashboards: Each school can manage their own school dashboards and include bulletins or embedded Twitter and RSS feeds from the school’s public website.

“Our teachers are creating courses in which they get together to design quizzes, activities, and assignments, and then share them with each other so they can take them to their courses and apply them.”

Beatriz Arnillas, Director of Instructional Technology, Houston Independent School District, Texas
Communicate and Collaborate via the web

Online tools allow learners of all age to practice the collaborative skills needed for success in college and career as well as part of the global community. Teachers also find opportunities, inspiration, and support online to continue to improve their classrooms and to make learning more personal for each student.

We believe effortless communication has a really big impact on how we teach and how we learn. Itslearning’s modern and easy messaging system will lower the barrier for communication between students, teachers and other users.

Discussion boards help users collaborate, give feedback and share ideas in both courses and communities. Use categories like to make interactive and ongoing KWL charts!

The Parent Portal goes beyond the traditional grades and attendance to become an effective and easy channel to really understand what’s really happening with their child. Parents can access student’s tasks, course planners, individual learning plans, ePortfolios and more!

“What’s important as a parent is that itslearning is a communication tool. There’s no doubt about which assignments are due, when they’re due, and how they’re supposed to be delivered.”

Bill Kaufman, Parent, Lambert High School, Suwanee, GA

More Ways to Communicate and Collaborate

Parent/Teacher/Student

• Student-led conference using ePortfolios
• Individual Learning Plans

Teacher/Mentor

• Individual Learning Plans for professional growth
• Planner sharing
• Blogs and ePortfolios

Community Member/Student

• Individual Learning Plans for internship tracking
• Guests in courses
itslearning is your one-stop shop to organize and manage functions for creating and delivering courses, assessments, standards management, grades and more. With itslearning, everyone in your school system can work efficiently, collaborate and communicate – all in one, simple interface that works well on a variety of devices – from Chromebooks to tablets, and smartphones to laptops.