

## Arts Learning from a Distance Webinar Questions and Answers

Question: How do you get to "Waterbury Creates" is that available to everyone? Is there a website?

Answer: Yes it is open to everyone at <https://sites.google.com/waterbury.k12.ct.us/wpscreates/home>. Waterbury teachers upload their information through the Waterbury Google Drive.

Question: What is screencastify?

Answer: This is an added app to Google Slides (free) that will allow you to run slide show while narrating it and adding your pic to the corner, export as a movie. PowerPoint also does this in their platform by exporting as a movie file.

Question: Is your Seesaw lesson saved in a library where other CT teachers could access it?

Answer: No. See Saw is a "closed" platform. The presentation showed the screen shots of a few pages - teachers can share kids or classes within the school but not outside of it. You can try to create your own "test" class -- it is free and available on either computer or Ipad.

Question: What is your art student involvement at this point? (How many kids are involved & completing the assignments?)

Answer: This depends on level, mostly K-5 about 10% not involved; 6-12 maybe less as the grades will be more important to them.

Question: I'm trying to find google forms scavenger hunts, escape rooms, etc. I teach high school art.

Answer: I have seen these on Facebook in the teacher groups that I belong to for general music. You might want to check that out. I have found that a great resource for material and support as we go through this unprecedented time together. I would check any suggested things you find for rigor and content.

Question: Special needs participation?

Answers: Our teachers are making extra efforts to connect with these special needs kids, via telephone, google, email, Meetings, and with paras.

We all have special needs students in our classrooms, and are modifying as best as we can with adapting assignments, flexible turn in times and connecting to parents to assist.

Question: Were any art materials distributed?

Answers: Glastonbury -- no support K-8 were distributed at the start. HS had one day to plan and distribute some materials; some teachers have since dropped off supplies to some kids at home.

Waterbury was not able to distribute materials. Only one elementary school music teacher received grant money, bought, and distributed art materials to the students at that school.

Question: How was parent permission from for the virtual field trip handled?

Answer: No need -- it was a closed group meeting, and all students have a signed permission for on-line work at the beginning of the year.

Question: Does the "visiting artist" idea have to be live or can it be recorded and posted for view at different times?

Answer: Either way -- one of our virtual tours included Q& A time -- questions written by students (HS level), and the artist responded in real time. Also, he gave kids a "studio tour." If given permission of the artist, you can record the session for kids who might miss the live tour.

Question: How is engagement going? Are you feeling that most are engaged? Has anyone attempted Google Meets for check-ins and found success?

Answer: Some doing google meets for Q&A, check-in, or demos; some teachers are running "office hours" for kids who are looking for more support. I see that many districts are concerned with enrollment for the related arts classes. At the elementary level, we have 20% participation and this is prek-5. I am not sure how consistent this is compared to the rest of the state. We are running our related arts google classrooms separately from the classroom teachers.

Question: How are your districts assessing and grading learning? Do you have plans for art class review next year?

Answer: We are assessing work via limited criteria -- specific to distance learning. Projects are being "graded" K-5 as turned in with (sufficient, limited, outstanding) effort or participation. Report cards will just be comments K-5; 6-12 using rubrics -- some adjusted for distance learning expectations.

Question: Who taught the kids how to use the app?

Answer: Teachers are making demo handouts and videos for app use that is new to students.

Question: For Margaret - Did she reach out to parents about 4th graders using FlipGrid or just started using it? Are there permission issues with parents?

Answer: I reached out to our head of Technology first to see if the app was approved for use by the district and state as a non-data collecting app. That's how I got permission to use it. I then checked out if there were parents who did not give permission to share images of their child and once that was complete, I sent the link to the parent email to sign up. I've gotten 139 out of 147 students on. Weekly participation widely varies.

Question: Currently we are overwhelmed with parent communication with only 20% participation. How are other districts increasing enrollment and balancing that increase while also creating new weekly lessons, slideshows, and digital communication platforms?

Answer: WPS is calling and emailing parents.

Question: Are your lessons consistent with a few grade levels? So do all art teachers in certain grades teach the same thing, the same way?

Answer: K-5 team collaborates to plan K-2 and 3-5 lessons.

Question: Any thoughts on Safe tube versus quiet tube, etc. as ways of diminishing distractions and exposure of the students to unintended and inappropriate content?

Answer: Content is screened prior to use

Question: What are concerns and strategies regarding giving links to sites that then provide links to Facebook, YouTube, etc.?

Answer: I try to use Safetube, I find that it is "off" a lot. I do not use Facebook sites here in Brookfield, but I do offer links to YouTube sites, but always in a parent e-mail. I have a list of all parent emails, and send YouTube links that way, or I download them to omit ads.

Question: How much time a week are your lessons in your districts supposed to take?

Answer: Glastonbury- asked to expect 25min/class period -- so elementary is 25/week; HS is 25/day.

Question: How many kids are you serving in Waterbury Public schools?

Answer: I have 90 students this year at the Waterbury Arts Magnet School. WPS serves 19k students.

Question: When you have 600 students by yourself, and only 150 students participating, there is no way to chase down students. Any ideas?

Answer: As of right now, we have reached out in a multitude of ways, and our districts have let it be. We all have same issues and are doing our best to try to connect with all students. Our elem. teachers teach up to 600 students.

Resources Participants Shared in Chat

- CAEA Art Distance Learning Group on Facebook-lots of share
- Teachers Using Google Suite for Education
- Mote