Stride Learning Solutions

Four Flexible Online Learning Models that Improve Learning Today While Building for Tomorrow

01

Close learning gaps quickly with rich data and engaging adaptive targeted practice tools

Newman-Crows Landing Unified School District is a rural district serving the Newman, Crows Landing, and Diablo communities in the heart of California's Central Valley. The district is comprised of eight schools serving about 3,200 students. Roughly 75 percent of the student population is Hispanic, and 36 percent are English Language Learners (ELLs). Superintendent Randy Fillpot says, "With the wide range of skill levels among our students, we needed better formative assessment tools to help identify individual learning needs and help students when and where they need it most. We selected Stride Skills Arcade from Stride Learning Solutions because it gives us the data we need. It's fun for the kids, and they love the games they earn."

Heavy use of benchmark and real-time formative assessment data creates individual and small group interventions based upon state and national standards. Real-time statistics allow teachers to help students exactly when they need it, and Stride Skills Arcade's Progress Monitoring Assessments, administered several times a year, indicate which exact standards students understand and don't understand.

Individualized instruction boosts student learning
In the five years since NCLUSD implemented Stride Skills Arcade, it has become an essential component of the district's elementary school instructional program. "Stride has really helped improve learning, and it gives us real-time visibility into students' progress and the standards on which to focus," says Superintendent Fillpot.

02

Go virtual with CRE in high school to ensure college and career readiness

There is no question that K–12 education is undergoing a seismic change. The widespread adoption of virtual learning amid the pandemic is more than a temporal blip. It has exposed millions of learners and educators to the ways that technology can enhance learning.

"Education has looked the same since the early 1900s. It takes something like this to drive human innovation," says Mike Dardaris, senior director of career readiness education at Stride. "During this time, people are recognizing how important it is to have an equitable, quality education."

Online and blended career readiness education (CRE) and career and technical education (CTE) programs are key ways for schools to expose students to different career options and provide them with practical training they can apply to future degrees and jobs. Those programs, however, must be robust and reflect the evolving nature of work to ensure success in the new economic environment. This means:

- Exposure to high-growth industries

- Personalized blended learning that offers multiple modes of education

- Multiple opportunities for students to learn the same thing in a different way

- Project-based learning to develop skills that are the new currency in the labor market

Virtual CRE/CTE programs can help students prepare for this reality by adapting new ways of teaching. Rather than giving tasks, teachers should assign projects. This style mimics the modern workplace, a collaborative environment where problem-solving and creativity are crucial skill sets.

Online and blended career readiness education (CRE) and career and technical education (CTE) programs are key ways for schools to expose students to different career options and provide them with practical training they can apply to future degrees and jobs.

03

Fully support a successful alternative education culture and climate

Achieve Online is Colorado Springs School District 11's (D11) full-time online and blended learning school for middle and high school students. Achieve Online focuses on at-risk students by providing a flexible blended learning and socially supportive environment suited to the particular needs of its student population. A very high percentage of students have some form of anxiety disorder, medical problem, or challenging family situation, that makes it difficult for them to thrive in the higher paced, more stressful setting of a traditional brick-and-mortar.

The online learning environment means teachers can customize the curriculum, giving them the autonomy necessary to create and deliver instruction for each student to best make them successful.

The flexibility of online learning at Achieve Online can be seen in the curriculum, setting, and structure. Rotating schedules and online office hours, learning labs, and tutoring help meet the needs of diverse learners whose only chance at an education comes because of the flexibility. For example,

Stride Learning Solutions

04

Expand student opportunities for language learning even in the face of teacher shortages

To ensure ample opportunities for middle and high school students to take world language courses in schools where a teacher does not exist for that language, or where specific world language courses are not offered, **Clark County School District (CCSD)** in Nevada provides a robust supplemental online world language program using Stride Learning Solutions' Middlebury Interactive Languages™ curriculum.

The Middlebury Interactive Languages world language courses taught at CCSD include Spanish, French, Chinese, and German, and are provided to students throughout the district by the Nevada Learning Academy (NVLA), a CCSD alternative school.

Many of the reasons why classroom-based world language instruction does not meet CCSD's needs fall into two basic categories:
1. Language teacher shortages
2. Traditional logistical and economic challenges typical in a large and diverse school district

Stride Learning Solutions makes it possible for Clark County School District to augment classroom instruction with online world language courses, creating a balanced and robust offering to all students. In addition to NVLA and CCSD's own teachers, the district also has access to certified world language teachers available from Stride for those situations where they need a temporary teacher.

Access to courses that expand opportunity for the future

After the first full year's usage, Clark County School District has many examples of success, and the teachers of Middlebury Interactive Languages believe that it is better preparing students to be more fluent speakers. And this is significant. World language skills are crucial in today's society. Multiple language skills are becoming more critical as both society and business increasingly span the globe. The new federal Every Student Succeeds Act stresses that foreign language ability is essential for students to fully participate in today's global society and increasingly diverse communities.

young mothers or fathers are able to squeeze in slices of time to study online while children are napping. In other cases, students who struggle with anxiety or other mental health issues that can make learning in a traditional brick-and-mortar challenging, thrive in online and blended learning.

Sally Jergensen, Achieve Online's head counselor, shares "We have the most fragile of students medically or emotionally. The thing I like about our online school model is that it is very individualized, which is a must-have for our many students on 504 Plans and IEPs." These at-risk students may need to cut back on learning time, extend time needed to complete a course, or work while in a hospital, for example. Stride Learning Solutions' online courses provide the location and time flexibility students need to fit these situations.

Flexibility = success

Over Achieve Online's ten-year history, the school has become an invaluable program for the school district, helping middle and high schoolers become successful, both as students and in life. Achieve Online ranked second highest in SAT scores among Alternative Education Campus schools in Colorado in SY 2017–2018 and has earned a solid reputation of excellence in the region. It is a top go-to school for at-risk students, evidenced by its waiting list of over 100 students.

Sources: Achieve Online SAT score ranking information provided by D11 Achieve Online administrative staff.
Colorado Alternate Education Campuses (AECs) are schools with specialized missions designed to serve high-risk student populations.
https://www.cde.state.co.us/accountability/coloradoalternativeeducationcampusesppt

Find your online learning delivery model at stridelearning.com/learning–solutions

Stride Learning Solutions

© Stride Learing Solutions 2022