EACS eLearning Teacher FAQs

What is eLearning? eLearning is learning conducted via electronic media, typically, but not necessarily, over the Internet.

Can we just assign students some paper/pencil homework? Candice Dodson (IDOE) response: No. The idea is for the work to utilize technology... or at least be delivered through technology. Also, teachers must be available during the makeup period...and most are accomplishing this through online access via the My Big Campus chat, etc. This is not to just be homework... but actual facilitated learning. The only students that may receive paper/pencil eLearning work are students with IEPs or ILPs.

What can Special-Area teachers assign in MBC? Here are three examples:

1. A PE teacher has been teaching the rules of volleyball. He/she then posts a short 10-Minute video (found on YouTube or elsewhere) on the rules of volleyball, and creates a 10-question quiz in MBC on the rules of volleyball.

2. A music teacher has been teaching the category of wind instruments. He/she posts a short video on all the types of wind instruments on MBC (found on YouTube or elsewhere), and how you identify them, and creates a 10-questions quiz in MBC on the wind instruments.

3. An art teacher has been teaching the coil pot in art. He/she posts a link to a great coil pot website in MBC, and asks the students to participate in 5 discussion questions about coil pots using MBC discussions.

Will extracurricular events be affected by the eLearning day? No. Students do not come to school during the weather cancellation day. Students will have 5 days to complete any eLearning material, and schools will have a computer lab open either before or after school during those 5 days. (It is up to the building principals to determine the schedule and the staffing.)

Will our school have a lab open? Yes, schools will have a computer lab open either before or after school during those 5 days. (It is up to the building principals to determine the schedule and the staffing.)

When are eLearning materials/assignments due? Students have 5 school days after the cancellation to complete and turn in the eLearning
material. If another school cancellation occurs during the five days, an additional day will be added to the due date of the first cancellation.

Who will kids call/speak to with connectivity issues? Parents, students, or teachers could call the EACS HELPdesk directly at 446-0257.

Will students be able to access lessons beforehand and download here at school and be able to complete work that day? The ability to download ahead of time is completely up to each teacher in where and how they post materials and assignments. For example: if material is used/posted in My Big Campus, iTunes U, or Showbie, it can be downloaded to the iPad before the students leave school.

What about students without iPads? Schools will have a computer lab open either before or after school during those 5 days, (It is up to the building principals to determine the schedule and the staffing), or at any of the eight library branches over the next nine days.

What are the time/work expectations for teachers? For a class taught, a teacher would need to post approximately 30 minutes worth of learning material. Teachers would then need to be checking in to MBC to answer student questions from 9:00 to 3:00 during the 6 hour weather-cancelled eLearning day and available during the next 5 school days in school to answer questions.

Do kids need iPads/laptops and Internet? Students with iPads or other computers would be ideal. Refer to above if students do not have the iPad or a computer.

Will teachers need to be available to "interact" with the students during the eLearning day? The need to interact with students is up to the teacher and what platform they use. However, teachers should make an effort to be available using tools such as Discussions or Messages on My Big Campus or Compass Odyssey.

What are the consequences for students who do not complete the work? Students who do not complete any work assigned to them for the eLearning day should face the same consequences as they would face for a normal class session.
Will there be an open lab in school for students who claim no other way of completing the work? Schools will have a computer lab open either before or after school during those 5 days. (It is up to the building principals to determine the schedule and the staffing.

What kind of support/guidance will be offered to teachers for setting this up? Since May of 2012, EACS teachers have received/been offered training on MBC to create Discussions, Assignments, Announcements, use Resources, and use the Library. All EACS teachers should have all class groups built in MBC. EACS teachers have had access to Compass Odyssey since 2010. EACS teachers have received/been offered training on other iPad Apps such as Showbie, iTunes U, Pages, Keynote, Educreations, Compass Odyssey, etc. EACS tech coaches and instructional coaches are always available via email, and in the buildings each day.