



VIRTUAL TEACHING ACADEMY BLUEPRINT

From the Alliance for Virtual Learning

Session Workbook & Notepad



Blackboard

Developed by the Alliance for Virtual Learning, this Blueprint will help you prepare for virtual learning in your schools and classrooms this fall. By completing an initial Needs Assessment for each Virtual Teaching Academy session and identifying next steps based on what you hear from expert panelists in those sessions, this guide will highlight key improvement areas to focus on during your fall planning.

Upon completion, this Blueprint serves as a comprehensive readiness guide, helping you tackle the key improvement areas and actions for virtual and hybrid learning during the upcoming school year.



Topics	INFRASTRUCTURE	EQUITY & ACCESS	INSTRUCTIONAL PRACTICES	ENGAGEMENT	TRAINING & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
Sessions	<p>Instructional Resources: Not Putting the Cart Before the Horse - "Why" First and Then "What"</p>	<p>Equitable Access: Providing Equitable Access to Instruction and Resources for All Students</p>	<p>Virtual Teaching: Best Practices When Teaching and Learning Move Home</p>	<p>Parent Relationships: Supporting and Communicating with Families When Learning Moves Home</p>	<p>Teacher Professional Development: Aligning Plans with Teacher Needs and Best Practices</p>
	<p>Readiness Score:</p>	<p>Readiness Score:</p> <p>Special Needs Populations: Serving the Needs of Special Education, Gifted, and English Language Learners in a Virtual Environment</p> <p>Readiness Score:</p>	<p>Readiness Score:</p> <p>Synchronous and Asynchronous Instruction: When to Come Together and Why?</p> <p>Readiness Score:</p> <p>Evidence of Student Learning: Are Students Learning and How Do We Know?</p> <p>Readiness Score:</p>	<p>Readiness Score:</p> <p>Student Relationships: Keeping Students and Teachers Connected, as well as Students to Students</p> <p>Readiness Score:</p>	<p>Readiness Score:</p>

NEEDS ASSESSMENT Rate each statement on a scale of 1-5; 1 meaning you strongly disagree, and 5 meaning you strongly agree. Enter your average score on page 2.

Tools: I have the necessary technology tools to effectively communicate, teach and support students when they are learning from home.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING

Strategy: I have guidance from the school/district on how and when to use different tools to ensure consistency and success across teachers and classes.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING

Parents: I have a strategy and tools for communicating and supporting parents when students are working remotely.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING

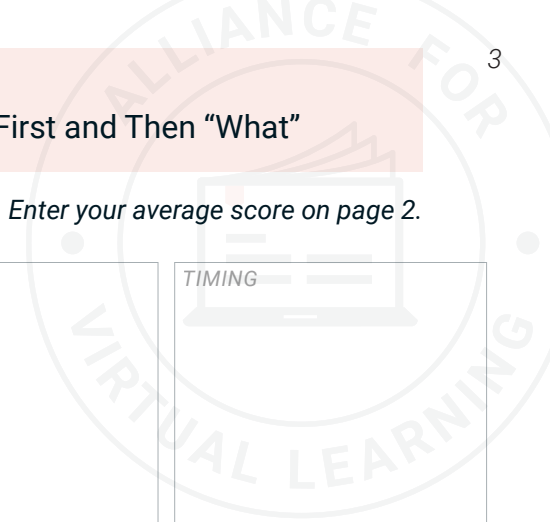
Accessibility: I know how to create accessible digital content and have a sense of the assistive technologies used by students and their families.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING



NEEDS ASSESSMENT Rate each statement on a scale of 1-5; 1 meaning you strongly disagree, and 5 meaning you strongly agree. Enter your average score on page 2.

Tools: Our school/district has the necessary technology tools to effectively communicate, teach, and support students when they are learning from home.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING

Strategy: Our school/district has provided guidance to schools/teachers to ensure consistency and success when students are learning from home.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING

Families: Our school/district has established norms for staff members on how and when to communicate with families.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING

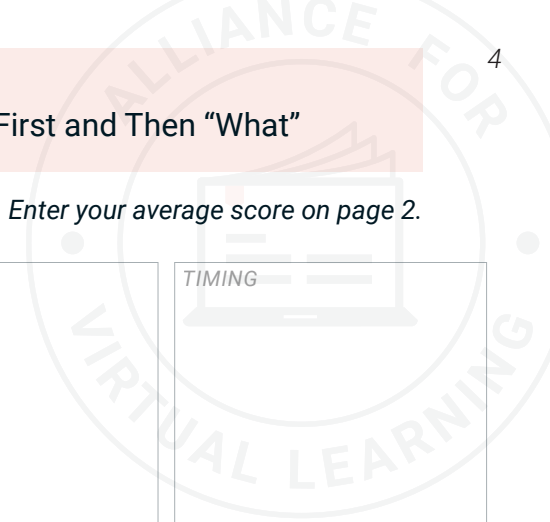
Digital Equity, Access, and Inclusion: Our school/district understands the equity implications of varying levels of at-home access and is addressing them.

1-5

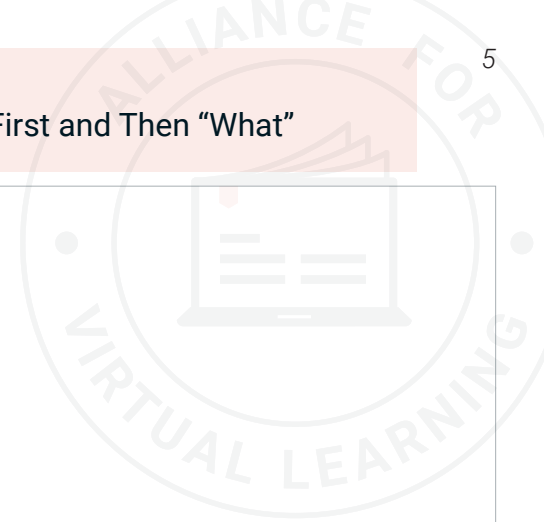
NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING



Instructional Resources:
Not Putting the Cart Before the Horse - "Why" First and Then "What"



Equitable Access:
 Providing Equitable Access to Instruction and Resources for All Students

NEEDS ASSESSMENT Rate each statement on a scale of 1-5; 1 meaning you strongly disagree, and 5 meaning you strongly agree. Enter your average score on page 2.

I have an understanding of the enhanced disparities that have further revealed themselves during the stay-at-home and schooling from home crisis.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING

I have an understanding of the impact of this spring's learning loss on the most vulnerable populations.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING

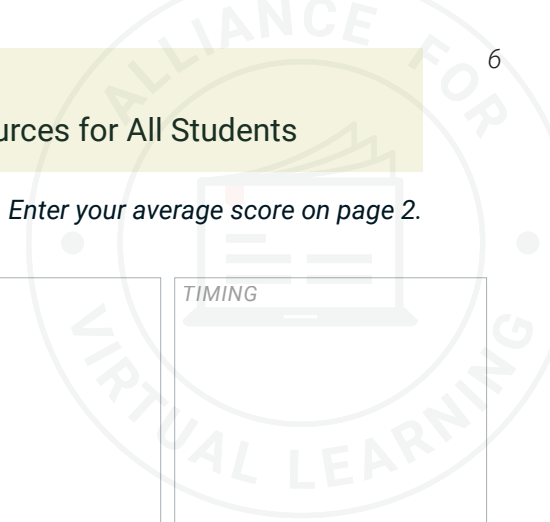
I have an understanding of what actions and decisions are needed to address disparities and to make significant progress in achieving equitable access for all students.

1-5

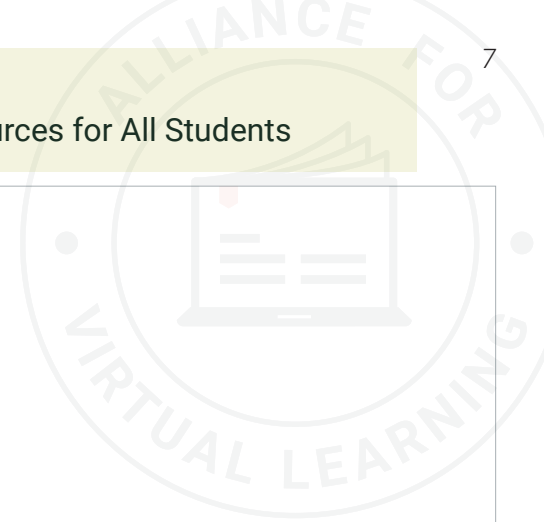
NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING



Equitable Access:
Providing Equitable Access to Instruction and Resources for All Students



Special Needs Populations: Serving the Needs of Special Education, Gifted, and English Language Learners in a Virtual Environment

NEEDS ASSESSMENT Rate each statement on a scale of 1-5; 1 meaning you strongly disagree, and 5 meaning you strongly agree. Enter your average score on page 2.

I know the present levels of academic performance of all the students I serve.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING

My students' parents know how to support their child's learning differences in various environments.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING

I understand how to progress monitor my students in the virtual environment.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING

I know how to make online instruction multisensory to better meet my students' needs.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING

Special Needs Populations: Serving the Needs of Special Education, Gifted, and English Language Learners in a Virtual Environment

NEEDS ASSESSMENT Rate each statement on a scale of 1-5; 1 meaning you strongly disagree, and 5 meaning you strongly agree. Enter your average score on page 2.

Teachers and administrators have resources to address IEP goals, provide accommodations or modifications and track when services have been delivered to exceptional students.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING

My general education teachers and teachers of students with exceptionalities have time to collaborate.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING

My case managers, counselors and teachers are conducting meetings or producing documentation to amend IEPs, Section 504 plans, and LEP plans to reflect the change of learning environment.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING

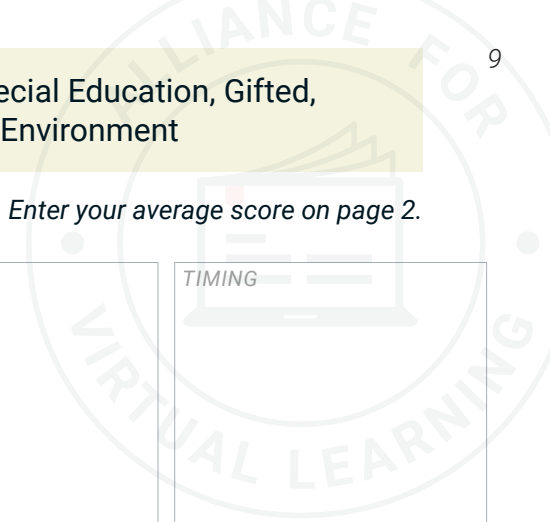
My school is tracking federal and state indicators that may be missed because of learning at home (e.g., IDEA Indicator 11).

1-5

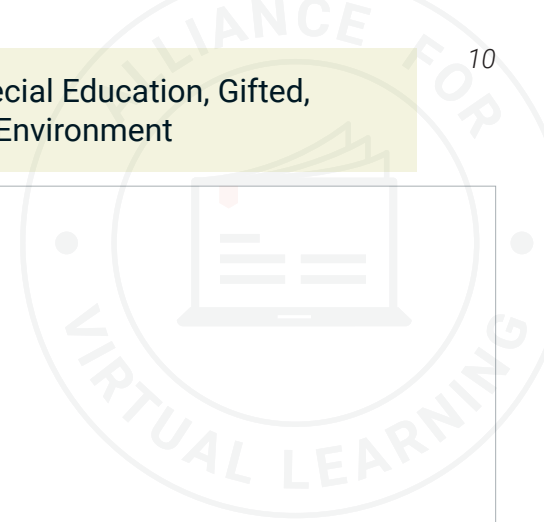
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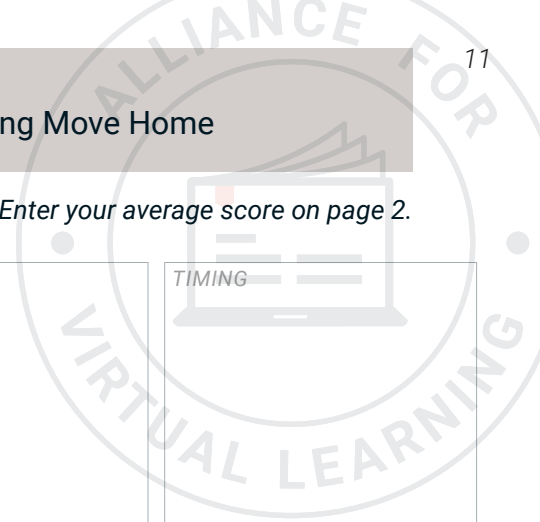
OWNER

TIMING



Special Needs Populations: Serving the Needs of Special Education, Gifted, and English Language Learners in a Virtual Environment





NEEDS ASSESSMENT Rate each statement on a scale of 1-5; 1 meaning you strongly disagree, and 5 meaning you strongly agree. Enter your average score on page 2.

I have access to and received basic training on how to use a learning management system and webinar (synchronous) communication technology.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING

I can identify at least four different pedagogical strategies using webinar technology and four using learning management systems.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING

I understand strategies to offer a blend of synchronous/asynchronous learning opportunities.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING

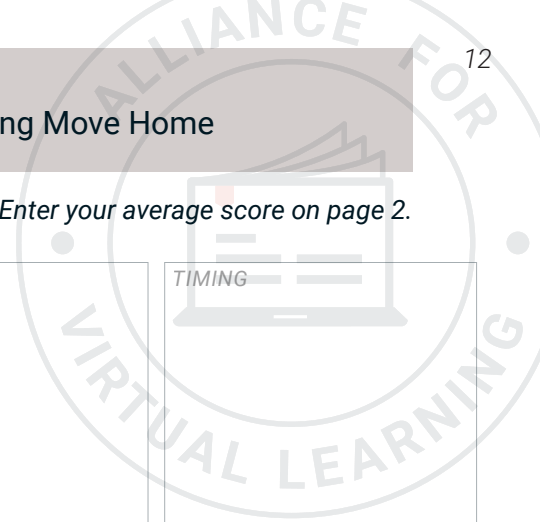
I can identify at least one technology that supports each of these areas: content storage, planning and productivity, communication, learning & assessment and content creation.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING



NEEDS ASSESSMENT Rate each statement on a scale of 1-5; 1 meaning you strongly disagree, and 5 meaning you strongly agree. Enter your average score on page 2.

I understand how to leverage technology to support higher order thinking skills such as creating, analysis, evaluation and synthesis.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING

I incorporate student choice and content creation in the learning opportunities I provide.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING

I understand the process for identifying and meeting needs and accommodations related to disabilities.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING

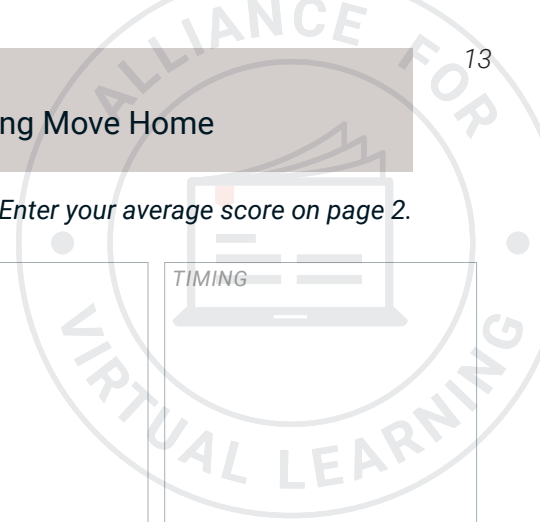
I understand how to support social emotional learning by leveraging technology and various pedagogical strategies.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING



NEEDS ASSESSMENT Rate each statement on a scale of 1-5; 1 meaning you strongly disagree, and 5 meaning you strongly agree. Enter your average score on page 2.

My school/district has a 1-to-1 initiative ensuring all students have access to educational content and communications.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING

All teachers and students have access to broadband, a learning management system (LMS), email and webinar technology at a minimum.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING

Our plan addresses the role of parents in virtual learning at various grade levels and considers parents as virtual learning coaches for elementary students, especially in grades K-3.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING

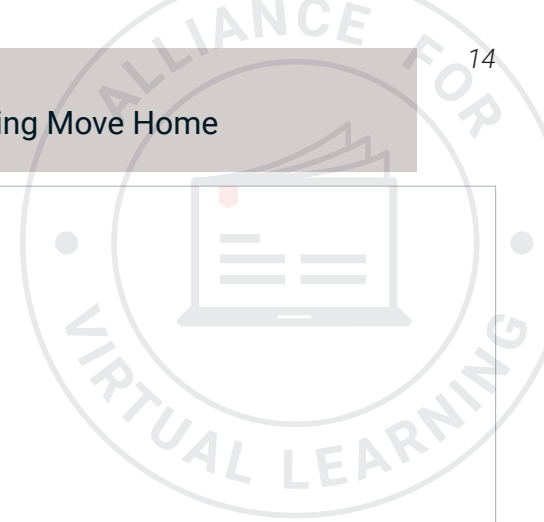
Our plan provides support for student accommodations and/or disabilities with virtual learning.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING



**Synchronous and Asynchronous Instruction:
When to Come Together and Why?**

NEEDS ASSESSMENT Rate each statement on a scale of 1-5; 1 meaning you strongly disagree, and 5 meaning you strongly agree. Enter your average score on page 2.

I understand the role, and strengths and opportunities, of both synchronous and asynchronous instruction in an online classroom.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING

I have the resources and support needed to create asynchronous and synchronous instruction for my content/grade level.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING

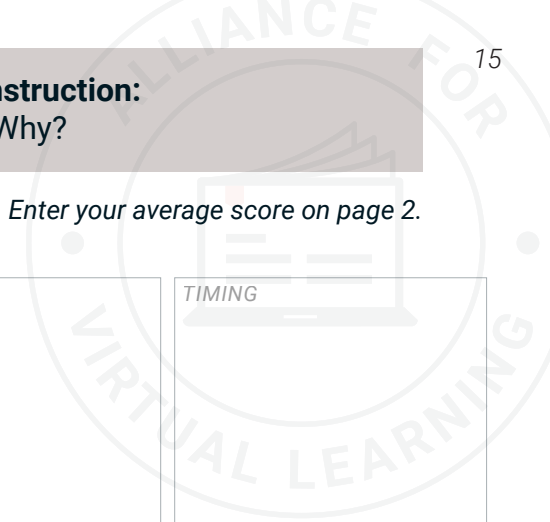
I have the instructional tools to check for understanding during synchronous and asynchronous instruction.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING



NEEDS ASSESSMENT Rate each statement on a scale of 1-5; 1 meaning you strongly disagree, and 5 meaning you strongly agree. Enter your average score on page 2.

Students have access (both digital and schedule-based) to attend to synchronous instruction.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING

Our administrators understand their role as instructional leaders in both synchronous and asynchronous environments.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING

Professional learning plans are in place for teachers to design high-quality, engaging asynchronous and synchronous experiences.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING

I know how I will model best practices for both synchronous and asynchronous online instruction.

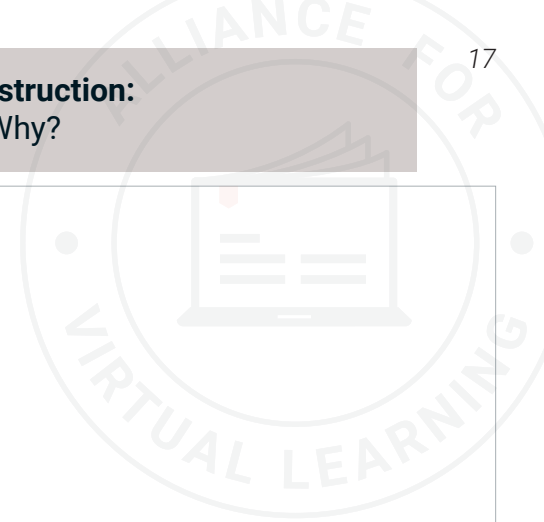
1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING

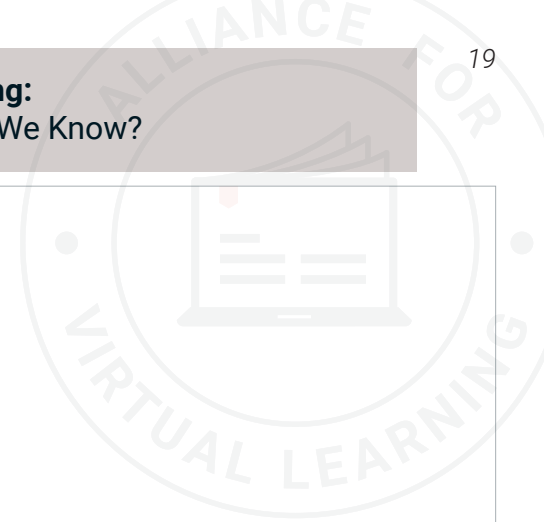
Synchronous and Asynchronous Instruction:
When to Come Together and Why?



NEEDS ASSESSMENT Rate each statement on a scale of 1-5; 1 meaning you strongly disagree, and 5 meaning you strongly agree. Enter your average score on page 2.

<p>I have an understanding of the goals of “student engagement” and “student learning” and of how our previous paradigms (e.g., seat time, physical attendance, eye contact, in-person testing) change when learning moves home.</p>	<p>1-5</p> <input type="text"/>	<p>NEXT STEPS</p>	<p>OWNER</p>	<p>TIMING</p>
<p>I have an understanding of new ways of thinking about evidence of student engagement and learning when in a virtual learning environment—24/7 access, anytime, anywhere, any place model, artifacts of engagement and learning, formative and summative assessment instruments and models.</p>	<p>1-5</p> <input type="text"/>	<p>NEXT STEPS</p>	<p>OWNER</p>	<p>TIMING</p>
<p>I have an understanding of what changes when you switch from “When time is a constant, learning is a variable” to “When time is the variable, learning is the constant.”</p>	<p>1-5</p> <input type="text"/>	<p>NEXT STEPS</p>	<p>OWNER</p>	<p>TIMING</p>
<p>I have learned effective strategies and techniques for gaining evidence of student engagement and learning in a virtual learning environment.</p>	<p>1-5</p> <input type="text"/>	<p>NEXT STEPS</p>	<p>OWNER</p>	<p>TIMING</p>

Evidence of Student Learning:
Are Students Learning and How Do We Know?



NEEDS ASSESSMENT Rate each statement on a scale of 1-5; 1 meaning you strongly disagree, and 5 meaning you strongly agree. Enter your average score on page 2.

I am aware of the stressors on students, parents, teachers and school leaders when learning moves home.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING

I have a model for understanding reactions to stressors and how to improve emotional well-being.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING

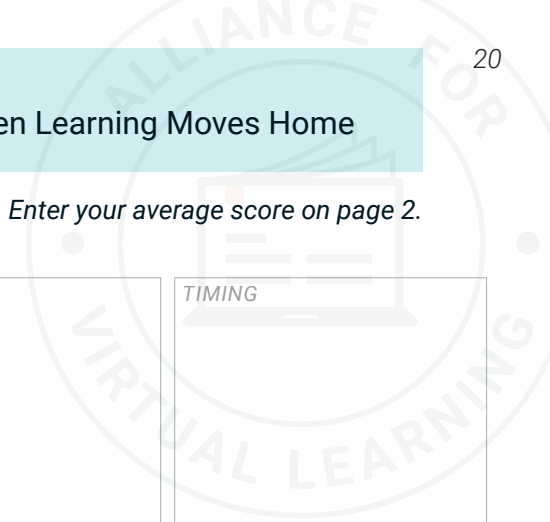
I have tools to improve communication between families and school personnel when learning moves home.

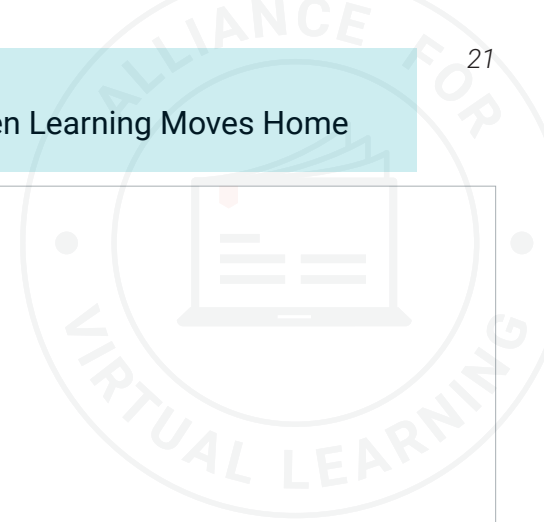
1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING





NEEDS ASSESSMENT Rate each statement on a scale of 1-5; 1 meaning you strongly disagree, and 5 meaning you strongly agree. Enter your average score on page 2.

I know how to build online community and encourage student-to-student interaction in a virtual learning environment.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING

I know how to use a variety of tools to foster positive relationships between the teacher and students in a virtual learning environment.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING

I know how to self-assess my proficiency in each of these areas.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING

I know how to use socio-emotional learning strategies with my students in a virtual learning environment.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING

Student Relationships:
 Keeping Students and Teachers Connected, as well as Students to Students

NEEDS ASSESSMENT Rate each statement on a scale of 1-5; 1 meaning you strongly disagree, and 5 meaning you strongly agree. Enter your average score on page 2.

I know how to build online community and encourage student-to-student interaction in a virtual learning environment.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING

I know how to support my teachers to use a variety of tools to foster positive relationships between the teacher and students.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING

I know how to support my teachers in self-assessing their proficiency in each of these areas.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING

I know how to support my teachers in using socio-emotional learning strategies with their students.

1-5

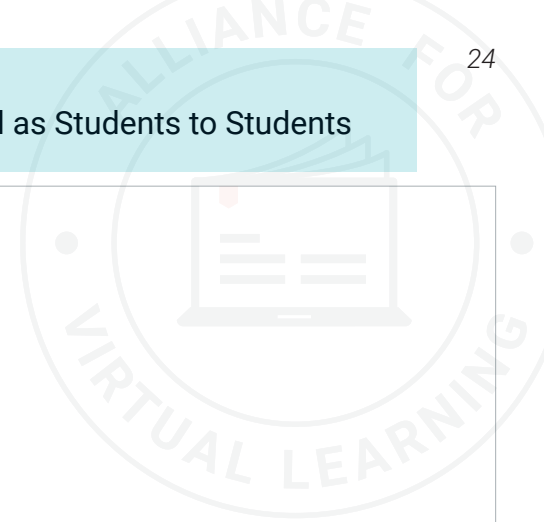
NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING

Student Relationships:

Keeping Students and Teachers Connected, as well as Students to Students



Teacher Professional Development:
Aligning Plans with Teacher Needs and Best Practices

NEEDS ASSESSMENT Rate each statement on a scale of 1-5; 1 meaning you strongly disagree, and 5 meaning you strongly agree. Enter your average score on page 2.

I have assessed myself using the NSQ Online Teaching Standards and understand my areas for future growth.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING

I understand that learning to teach online is developmental and I will encounter new issues as I gain experience over time.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING

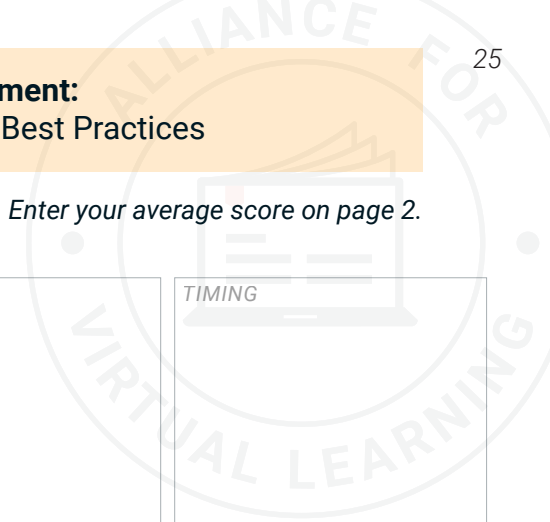
I participate in a professional learning network of my peers, both locally and around the globe.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING



NEEDS ASSESSMENT Rate each statement on a scale of 1-5; 1 meaning you strongly disagree, and 5 meaning you strongly agree. Enter your average score on page 2.

We offer teachers the opportunity to self-assess their professional development needs as aligned to the NSQ online teaching standards at least once per year, and use that data to create customized professional development opportunities.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING

My school/district has created a professional development strategy for teachers that:

Aligns to NSQ Online Teaching Standards.

1-5

NEXT STEPS

OWNER

TIMING

Addresses early developmental needs of teacher isolation, technology skills and time management strategies.

1-5

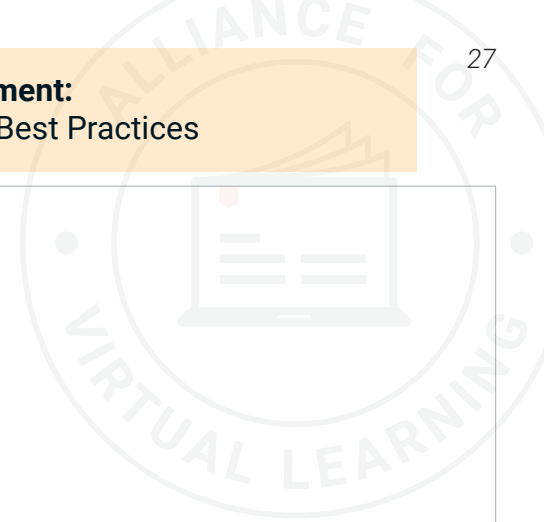
Goes beyond how to use technology to address pedagogical strategies that are learner-centered, personalized, and competency-based.

1-5

Offers training based on years of online teaching experience to meet different developmental needs.

1-5

Teacher Professional Development:
Aligning Plans with Teacher Needs and Best Practices



NOTES

