

As we settle into Mode 2, this “abnormal” schedule is becoming somewhat “normal”. Still, our Bishop Dwenger teachers continually express that they want to connect more with their students and miss the in-person interaction. Utilizing the students’ laptop cameras for two-way video would rectify this. Reasons cited are that two-way video:

- creates a sense of connection and accountability
- fosters community
- simulates instruction
- allows for easier identification of students by name
- helps to understand the student’s learning patterns and habits

Always placing the protection of our young people as a priority, the Diocesan Safe Environment Policy initially discouraged two-way real-time video streaming. However, after observing online learning for the past six months, the Diocesan policy was revisited and revised as follows:

- Teachers
  - may ask students to turn on their cameras
  - when using two-way video, will record class and make it available for absent students to view later. These will not be posted publicly, but on the class Canvas course.
  - will include at least one administrator or department chair who has access to the recording.
  - will begin two-way streaming with reminders of the rules of conduct
  - will mute or remove students from class who do not follow the rules of conduct
  - will not “spotlight” a student for a given period of time outside of a student presentation or calling on a student to contribute to class discussion.
- Students
  - should be dressed appropriately, following the dress-down day guidelines found in the handbook.
  - should utilize a background that either blurs or replaces the home’s setting. This background must be appropriate.

In the end, our teachers only want what best assists the students’ learning. In fact, one teacher said that when students have their cameras on, her "heart is full of sunshine."

If your internet access has a data cap or is limited, please contact Mary Sturm, Technology Director, for assistance.

If you choose to opt-out of two-way communication for your student, please contact one of the school’s administrators.