

EMPOWER TOWN HALL MEETING (May 20, 2020)

How has DL going:

Happy with how work has been divide during Distance Learning at Empower.

Kids enjoying seeing each other via zoom.

Parents having are difficulty with children due to social emotional needs and difficulty with managing behavior at home.

Some parents are having difficulty with supporting students when they are essential workers. Parent stated that students need structure, to continue developing relationships, to work on lagging skills, kids miss the interactions with other kids and staff. Kids are missing physical interaction of teacher hugs.

With Distance Learning students are learning to be independent and self sufficient to participate DL activities.

Some students have been more focused and have been able to increase their skills since starting Distance Learning. They don't have other classroom distractions or negative interactions Teachers have been creative with figuring out incentives for students to increase student engagement Students have been connecting with support staff via zoom and breakout rooms
Need for chid care for students with behavior concerns

What are the possibilities:

Blended learning with structure

Students attending certain days of the week to receive various instruction including social emotional, services like individual counseling and skills groups, instruction in lagging academic and behavioral skills and other days through Distance Learning to receive more 1:1 or small group.

Smaller number of students in the classroom

Flexibility for parents

Trade work or internships for students with blended learning to prep for life

Hands on learning

Train parents to prepare students for blended learning during the summer.

EDP spacing so students aren't cramped in one classroom

Child care for all students including students with emotional need