



# Folio

COLLABORATIVE [foliocollaborative.org](http://foliocollaborative.org) [info@foliocollaborative.org](mailto:info@foliocollaborative.org)

## Lessons Learned and Ideas from the Folio Community

School leaders are being innovative and bold in supporting their communities. For teachers and staff, the result has been boosts in morale, a strong sense of ownership, new skills and experiences, and regular reminders that leaders are there for them.

In last week's Folio group leadership coaching session, one-on-one conversations, Member Spotlight presentation, and Mastermind calls, Folio members shared what is happening - and working - in their schools right now.

### **How might you draw on the diverse skills of your faculty, staff, and students in new and different ways in order to get additional support where it's needed now?**

Folio members have:

- Asked Admission team members to pivot from their usual role to conducting phone check-ins with families
- Invited Seniors to serve as "virtual homework helpers/babysitters" for the children of teachers, so that they are able to teach classes
- Created a Remote Learning Fellows program to help support the ed tech needed in this new way of teaching
- Certified teachers in different technologies (such as Google Classroom, Seesaw) to help build their skills

### **How might you tend to your faculty/staff in order to maintain community and boost morale?**

Folio members have:

- Included funny memes and videos in regular Friday teacher memos
- Sent gift baskets from local vendors to faculty members at their homes
- Established affinity groups for faculty to create an inclusive space to share with others in similar positions (such as parents of young children, people living alone, etc.)
- Hosted non-school faculty events such as yoga, karaoke, happy hours, and coffee hours



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## **How might you stay true to your school's mission in order to preserve traditions and a sense of normalcy?**

Folio members have:

- Developed plans for virtual awards ceremonies for graduating students
- Broadcasted student and staff performances on a school TV channel - open mic night!
- Continued with the traditions and rituals that are integral to the school's culture by creating virtual Coffees with the Head, Morning Meetings, athletics team practices and enrichment clubs

## **How might you reframe this time as an opportunity to try something new in order to encourage innovation and experimentation with your faculty?**

Folio members have:

- Developed new life-readiness courses for seniors (especially for those who have met graduation requirements), such as laundry, cooking, fitness, and passion projects
- Moved away from a "coverage" model to a competency-based model of instruction
- Tried out new instructional approaches, including Flipped Classroom and Project Based Learning
- Created dedicated time for teacher professional development; for example, one school has moved to a four-day academic week with Fridays reserved for PD and "Fun Fridays" for students (cooking shows, magic activities, etc.)
- Tried new ways to provide just-in-time professional development to teachers, including short Loom videos and 1:1 targeted coaching after observations
- Planned new digital summer school pilots, creating a new revenue stream while also accelerating the curriculum

## **How might you capture and document all of the work that is happening in order to preserve the work happening at this time in preparation for the Fall?**

Folio members have:

- Enlisted a school archivist or storyteller (or training students as oral historians) to help keep a record of the school's activities throughout this transition
- Thought of faculty and staff as "action researchers" - ready to plan, reflect, and iterate
- Created multiple opportunities for faculty, staff, students, and parents to contribute to this learning, including embedding a "sharing" button in each week's school memo and using surveys to help everyone reflect on successes and challenges

**If you would like any additional information on any of these ideas, please let us know, [pd@foliocollaborative.org](mailto:pd@foliocollaborative.org) and we'll connect you with the school putting them into action.**