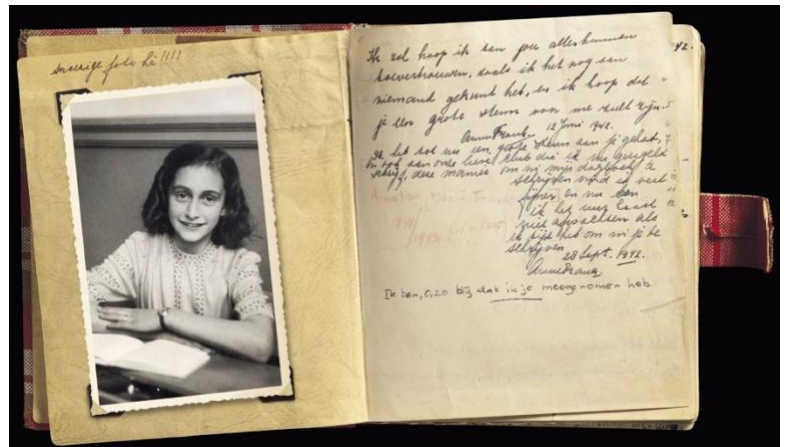


PES' middle school students and teachers are teaching and learning in new, innovative ways through the use of interactive platforms such as Google Classroom, Zoom, and Google Hangouts, just to name a few. Below are a few examples of projects and activities our middle schoolers have embraced since remote learning began.

Finding Meaning in Crisis Project

Our middle school students are creating “living histories” as a way to connect previous historical events to their present experiences through meaningful reflection. After a discussion on primary and secondary sources and the value of first-hand accounts of historical moments, as well as using a read-aloud from *The Diary of Anne Frank* as a model, middle school students are writing first-hand, daily journal entries to document this monumental moment in history.

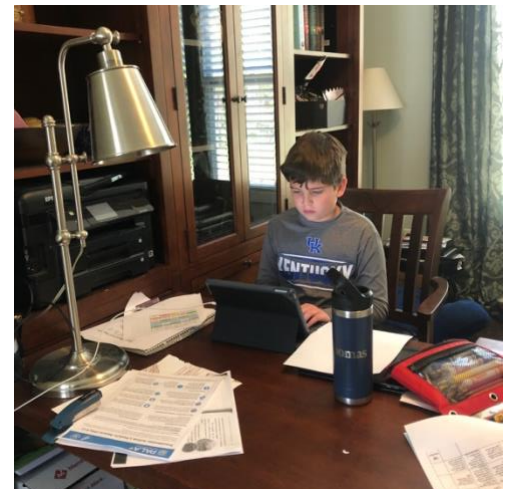


COVID-19 Web Quest Activity

PES' 7th and 8th graders are doing a Coronavirus (COVID-19) Web Quest, where they are exploring the CDC's website to answer fact-based questions about the virus. This serves to teach them about getting information directly from reputable sources in order to alleviate any misconceptions or rumors about the virus.

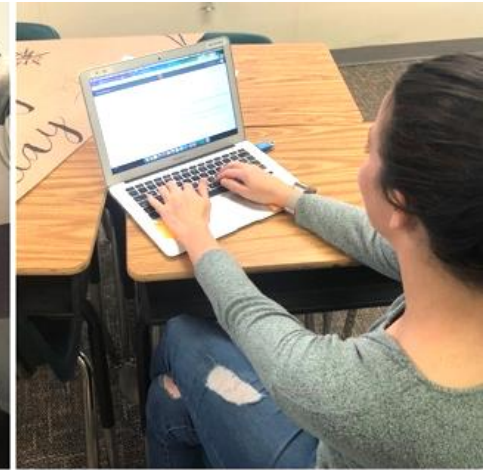
Simulation Activity on the Spread of Pathogens

PES' 6th graders have been engaged in an online simulation of a person in a room with a sickness. The simulation compares how different factors affect the spread of a certain pathogen. Students are looking at the differences in spreading between foodborne, airborne, and contact, using graphs that show how one person can exponentially spread a sickness, which also helps to explain the importance and reasoning behind social distancing until the virus slows down. This activity goes hand in hand with their unit on the immune system.



Middle Schoolers Still Joyfully Learning in Real-Time Daily Instruction

While many fear that remote learning is, in essence, *remote*, PES' middle school teachers are using Google Hangouts to synchronously teach our curriculum, allowing students to be engaged in a full day of school in real time. In short, our middle schoolers are participating in daily instruction during regular school hours using classroom strategies like Socratic dialogue, group instruction, and project-based learning, just to name a few.



Using Remote Learning as an Opportunity to Deepen Student-Teacher Connectivity

In addition, PES teachers are able to connect one-on-one with students daily outside of their real time instruction.

These one-on-one video conferences enable teachers to check-in on students' technical capabilities, academic progress, and social-emotional status. This has been especially effective for the middle school students who are often more likely to share their concerns on screen than in person.

