

Ideas in Mathematics:

Motivational Strategies and Tools for Online Learning



Key Concepts

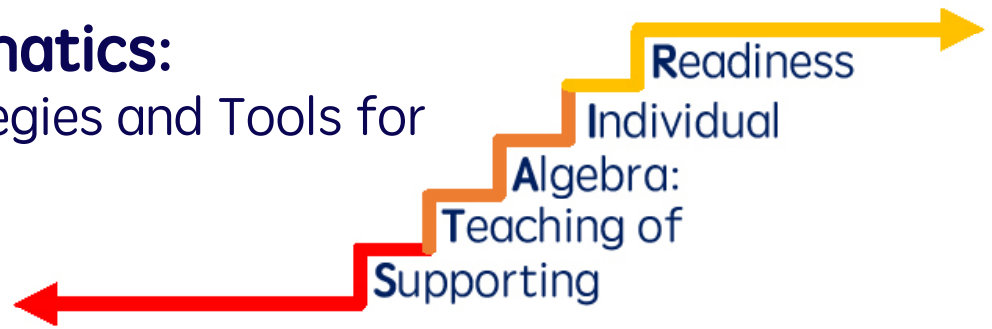
- Many of the strategies that can be applied to motivate and change students' behaviors for in person learning can also be used to motivate and change students' behaviors in an online setting.

Strategies for Motivating Students:

- Establish clear expectations of what online learning will look like (e.g., screen on, participation in group discussions, etc.).
- Set measurable goals for achieving desired behaviors, either public class-wide goals or private individual goals for specific students.
- Reward students when they demonstrate desired behaviors and meet personal or class-wide benchmarks. These rewards should be chosen at the same time goals are set so students know what they are working towards.
- When possible, “catch” students enacting desired behavior and note the positive behavior as often as possible.
- Graph behavior or group participation so students can see personal or class-wide goals being achieved. Note: if working with individual students on personal goals, keep those goals private and do not display publicly the student's progress.
- Assess student learning often throughout a lesson. For older students especially, if material presented is at or surpasses their frustration level, they will likely lose interest and “check out.”
- Build in multiple opportunities for students to engage in the material. For online learning, this may include group chat games, shared online platforms in which students can participate during instruction, or small group break out sessions when possible.

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Example Online Behavior Matrix

Distance Learning Behavior Matrix	Preparation <i>How ready are you?</i>	Respect <i>How do you treat others?</i>	Integrity <i>Who are you when no one is looking?</i>	Discipline <i>Are you following the rules?</i>	Effort <i>Are you being the best you?</i>
Distance Learning	I am: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have all the materials I need. Taking care of home responsibilities outside of class time. Attending Google Meets on time. Completing and turning in assignments on time. 	I am: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Taking turns to comment during Google Meets lessons. Honoring one voice at a time. Making respectful comments online. Using respectful facial expressions online. Valuing school property. 	I am: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Turning in my own work. Helping younger siblings if needed. Using Google Meets for school use only. Supporting my classmates' opinions. 	I am: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attending all my classes, every day. Checking my Canvas module. Completing my classwork each day. Spending time helping my family. 	I am: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Always persevering and trying my best. Asking for help when I need it. Actively participating. Creating thoughtful and neat work. Checking over my work. Showing all of my work. Helping others who may need assistance.
Technology	I am: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coming to class with my Chromebook charged. Using technology appropriately. Taking good care of my Chromebook. 	I am: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respectful of myself and others online. Keeping login, passwords, and private information private. Avoiding eating or drinking while using my Chromebook. Respectful of the classroom. 	I am: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Always citing sources of pictures & information used. 	I am: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staying on task when using technology. Avoiding and reporting inappropriate sites and unsafe use. 	I am: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using my Chromebook for school use only. Taking pride in completing my best work.

Resources

- [National Center on Intensive Intervention Supporting Online Learning](#)
 - o This PowerPoint and accompanying webinar, experts at the National Center on Intensive Intervention discuss strategies for supporting online learners.
- [Center on Positive Behavioral Intervention & Supports Teaching Matrix](#)
 - o This guide walks through how to develop a behavior matrix for students who are learning online.
- [Incentives and Rewards for Online Learners](#)
 - o This website provides dozens of examples of rewards and incentives to keep online learners motivated when they cannot attend in person learning.