

Middle School and High School Distance Learning Skills

Being a successful learner is a skill that can be developed. Just like we can learn to play the guitar, shoot a free throw, solve algebraic equations, or make toast, we can develop the behavioral skills, habits, and mindsets that are needed to be a successful learner. Often we think that either a student is independent or not. Organized or not. Resourceful or not.

However, the truth of it is that even if your child is **at this moment**, disorganized, they can learn, practice daily, and get better at the skills, systems, and routines needed to help them become organized. They may need clear and consistent help from you at the beginning as they learn what is needed to be an organized person, but eventually, they will have practiced their organizational strategies enough that they become an organized person - it is just who they are. Just like right now, who they are is disorganized.

In order to gain the skills necessary to be a successful and independent learner, it is important to first know what they are and what is needed to learn them.

Successful Distance Learning Students...

- Have a **Strong Support Network** at home or in the community. Online students need someone who has time and is willing to work with them on school work and make sure they have the resources they need for success.
- Are **Independent Workers** who get work done without a lot of prompting by parents, guardians, or teachers.
- Enjoy Learning and **Discovering On Their Own**.

Have good to average **Technology Skills**.

- Have good **Organizational Skills**.
- **Understand Deadlines** and rarely or only sometimes procrastinates.
- **Are Resourceful**. They know how to ask questions when they don't understand something.
- **Have Grit**. They don't stop when things get hard or confusing. They find a way to understand and move through that which is difficult.

• **Are Good Communicators** who can communicate with teachers and parents/guardians about their work.

Have a Growth Mindset - (insert info on growth mindset) and parent improv session on growth mindset