



Podcast Discussion Guide for Instructional Staff



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EPISODE 028

Topic: [Overcoming Obstacles & Finding Solutions](https://bit.ly/35JyRux) in LaunchED/Hybrid Teaching (<https://bit.ly/35JyRux>)

Guests: Ryan Morris, 8th grade science teacher at Windy Ridge K8, and Allison Zinn, 5th grade teacher at Lake Silver Elementary.

Suggested Discussion Questions:

- Allison had never taught with laptops more than once a week and described her evolution in teaching as drastic this year, while Ryan was an early adopter of digital curriculum five years ago. Our school is in the [insert location] of that spectrum, how did this episode resonate with you in terms of our experience?
- “How the heck am I going to do this?” that’s a direct quote from Allison. How many of you felt the same way? How have you evolved during this fall?
- Hybrid classrooms call for some real pedagogical strategies, and even Ryan, who’s been teaching on Canvas for many years, says that’s his biggest challenge. Let’s talk through what you’ve been doing thus far, and whether this podcast or your colleagues here at our school can help you.
- Making the intent to call on every single student who is online is very much a part of what these teachers do each day. Who has found success with that? Who’s found additional challenges?
- Showing your students that you care is definitely harder this year. What kinds of things do you do to form meaningful connections – with face-to-face AND LaunchED@Home students?
- Rewards are tough, these days. What are you using in your classroom to keep your students motivated? Did you hear what Ryan said about SciQuest, where he hides clues in his Canvas? He said everyone would think it was too time-consuming but he wanted to convey how well it worked. Is there a way you can see adapting something like that at our school?
- Allison has been upping her vocal praise and doing virtual lunches with her students and has found success there. Have you ever tried doing a virtual lunch?
- If you buy into it, your students will buy into it. What have you hyped up so big, even while not being completely sure it would work? Did it work or not?

- Finding what works and what doesn't can vary from classroom to classroom. What kinds of things that we're doing at our school are working in your classroom and which aren't? What can we adjust from a school perspective that might allow your classroom to find more success?
- Payday Friday? Earning rewards for use on Friday could be done in more ways than just the way Allison and Ryan mentioned, what do you think?
- Equity is essential in a hybrid classroom. Do you feel that your students are getting the same experience whether they're physically in your classroom or learning from home?
- The hosts ask this all the time, but I want to know what you all think – what does innovation in education mean to you?
- Do you feel that we've been innovative or reactive to the crazy year 2020 has been? Does anyone have ideas on ways we can be more innovative?

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