

### Connections

News from Your Tutoring and Test Prep Experts

Vol. 4

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### CLUB Z! HAS YOU COVERED

As families begin thinking about back-to-school, it's easy to feel overwhelmed. Schools are facing difficult decisions about what kind of instructional plans to offer in light of growing COVID-19 concerns, and parents are having to make hard decisions about what's best for their children. For most school systems, there are three distinct options being considered: *distance learning, in-person learning, or a hybrid model* combining the first two options. Although most of the world experienced some kind of distance learning at the end of the last school year, fall 2020 plans for distance learning are likely to look quite different. For example, grades and testing will again play a role in measuring student performance, and attendance will be more closely regulated.

For schools opting to implement in-person learning, students will return to school campus but likely have to abide by safety precautionary measures, including social distancing in the classroom and wearing masks or face coverings throughout the day to limit the spread of the COVID-19 virus. Even in a hybrid scenario, students will need to learn how best to transition from online to in-person throughout the week, requiring more responsibility for tracking assignments and materials as they go back and forth increasing the potential for students to fall behind.



While each option has clear pros and cons, one thing is clear; families are going to need academic support more than ever. One-on-one tutoring can be an excellent option to keep students engaged and on track this school year.

Please visit <u>clubztutoring.com</u> and see how Club Z! Tutoring can help students achieve academic success this school year.

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# RESEARCH SHOWS STUDENTS FALLING MONTHS BEHIND DURING VIRUS DISRUPTIONS

By Dana Goldstein

While a nation of burned-out, involuntary home schoolers slogs to the finish line of a disrupted academic year, a picture is emerging of the extent of the learning loss among children in America, and the size of the gaps schools will be asked to fill when they reopen. It is not pretty.

New research suggests that by September, most students will have fallen behind where they would have been if they had stayed in classrooms, with some losing the equivalent of a full school year's worth of

a full school year's worth of academic gains. Racial and socioeconomic achievement gaps will most likely widen because of disparities in access to computers, home internet connections and direct instruction from teachers.

And the crisis is far from over. The harm to students could grow if schools continue to teach fully or partly online in the fall, or if they reopen with significant budget cuts because of the economic downturn. High school dropout rates could increase, researchers say, while younger children could miss out on foundational concepts in phonics and fractions that prepare them for a lifetime of learning and working.

In South Los Angeles, Danielle Gandy has spent countless difficult hours guiding her energetic 6-year-old, Cadynce, through online meetings and assignments provided by her charter school. Still, Ms. Gandy is under no illusion that Cadynce has completed the normal kindergarten curriculum, and is especially concerned about her progress in math.

"Looking at the work the teacher has done, I applaud her," Ms. Gandy said, "but it's maybe a fraction of what they would be learning if they were in an actual school setting. If they are transitioning into first grade, will there be time to catch up and get them up to par?"

Teachers across the country share such worries. In Aurora, Colo., outside Denver, Clint Silva, a

seventh-grade social studies teacher, was planning to spend the spring working with his students on research skills. For one remote assignment, he asked them to create a primary source about the pandemic that future historians could consult. But a majority of his students have not consistently engaged with remote assignments. They are not receiving traditional grades, and some have parents who are working outside the home or who are not tech-savvy, and are unable to assist with online schooling. "We know this isn't a good way to teach," Mr. Silva said. "We want to hold kids accountable. We want to see their progress, be in the classroom with them and see them struggle and overcome that. Instead, we are logging in for an hour a day, and kids are turning their cameras off and staying quiet and not talking to us."

Research can now estimate the size of the learning loss students have experienced under such conditions. Because regular standardized testing has been suspended, some of the research uses past disruptions to learning - such as natural disasters or even summer break - to project the potential impact of the current crisis.

#### Please see link below for full article:

nytimes.com/2020/06/05/us/coronavirus-education-lost-learning.html

## TUTOR SPOTLIGHT HENRY LACEY





Henry has been a tutor with Club Z! for over a year. He holds a BS in Economics, JD in Law, MA in Journalism and MS in Science Education, with a huge experience in science. On a personal level, Henry is so personable that everyone raves what a delight he is to work with. He is always open to new ideas presented to him and flexible with his schedule to meet our clients educational needs. Thank you Henry for all your hard work!

# CLUB Z! TUTORING'S ONLINE PLATFORM RECEIVES NATIONAL RECOGNITION

For families in need of school support this year, online or virtual tutoring is a great option to consider. Virtual tutoring allows a student and tutor to connect for live support in real-time using a laptop, desktop computer, or other internet-enabled device such as a tablet or smart phone. Virtual tutoring is incredibly convenient, with students having the flexibility to schedule lessons around their classroom learning. Convenience and flexibility are just two benefits of online tutoring, but it is still very important for families to work with a reputable provider for online tutoring.

For more than 25 years, Club Z! has prided itself on offering high quality tutoring and test prep programs, using qualified and thoroughly vetted tutors. Club Z! programs are available in-home or online using our proprietary online learning platform. The Club Z! platform utilizes audio, video, and collaborative white-board technology to help students and tutors feel as if they are in the same room. This platform also allows students the option to upload assignments, pictures of their classroom texts, or other supporting documents so that the tutor and student can work through the assignments together using the interactive tools.

After launching this product roughly two years ago, the website has received high praise from not only the students and tutors utilizing the website, but also from national publications such as:

#### Good Housekeeping

goodhousekeeping.com/life/parenting/g29548871/best-on-line-tutoring-websites

Care.com

care.com/c/stories/15069/tutoring-online

• Financial Times

ft.com/content/bc568336-6537-11ea-b3f3-fe4680ea68b5

• Edureviewer.com

edureviewer.com/top-online-tutoring-websites

• Technavio

blog.technavio.com/blog/top-online-tutoring-companies-us



These highly discerning publications have recognized Club Z! as a top provider of online tutoring, and a highly valuable resource to families whose students are experiencing learning losses in the wake of nationwide school closures due to COVID-19.

Mark Lucas, CEO and Founder of Club Z! Tutoring adds, "We are obviously very proud of the online tutoring platform we've built, and the positive feedback we receive from our students and their families is so gratifying. But to also receive such high marks from these major organizations is really a seal of approval for us. We are honored."

To find out how your child can benefit from live, one-on-one virtual tutoring, call **800-434-2582** or visit us online at **clubztutors.com**.

"My son has been using Club Z! Online to receive help with his AP Math class. I am very impressed by the functionality and ease using their online App. Setting up online tutor sessions for my son has been a piece of cake."

- Laurie S.



"Club Z! connected me with a tutor through their online platform. This is exactly the 1-on-1 attention my daughter needed for her Science class. I was very pleased with the flexibility in hours and Club Z!'s Online interface."

- Ryan L.