



**Communicate without borders.**



## About Us

Founded in 2007, ConnectYard offers a completely private and secure social engagement platform that allows both students and instructors to easily communicate with one another using today's most popular social and mobile technologies. ConnectYard helps make your communications more engaging and accessible by delivering important and timely notifications to remote learners on WhatsApp, Twitter DM, Facebook, SMS (no data plan required) MMS (rich text, picture and video), Voice (text-to-speech, speech-to-text) using Amazon Poly (Alexa in 29 languages) and other places they are more likely to check. This enables you to meet Federal requirements for remote learners with disabilities as well as better support impoverished students with limited or no internet access at home.

Connect with us!



**COVID-19  
EQUAL ACCESS INITIATIVE**



Leverage the **FULL POWER** of the Social Web



# COVID-19 Equal Access Initiative

The crisis we are facing and the social distancing it demands has required schools around the globe to close their doors. While some are choosing to provide instruction online, others are grappling with the challenge this brings about for students of poverty, disability and color that often do not have equal access to broadband, computers and adapted accessible devices generally required for them to actively participate in remote learning.



## What's changed for the most vulnerable students since COVID-19?

The closure of schools, coffee shops, and municipal facilities like libraries and community centers has decimated the infrastructure the impoverished and disabled rely on for connectivity and support. As a result, absentee rates have increased in low income and rural communities - students are not logging on, not checking in and not completing assignments.

## What are common access challenges these students face everyday?

**No computers** - no tablet or adapted accessible device at home

**No access** - no data plan on phone or internet service at home

**Service interruptions** - phone switched off or number changed

## Why take a multi-modal based approach to remote learning?

**SMS** - can send and receive text, photo or video messages without a data plan

**Voice** - can send and receive messages as text-to-speech or speech-to-text

**Social Media** - can check even when service is disconnected or number changes

## Why are schools and organizations partnering with ConnectYard?

**No training** - we turn your email into a tweet, text or multi-lingual voice messages

**No new devices** - works just as well with older hardware and slower networks

**No guess work** - tells you when students and parents receive your message

