# Resources for Distance Learning

## How to work together from near and far!

By Courtney Miller, JCHS Distance Librarian

Many people feel a sense of dread when they hear that they will be working in groups on an assignment. Working together can be difficult, obnoxious, and frustrating, but it doesn’t have to be! One of the biggest hurdles groups tend to encounter is logistical—getting everyone together at the same place and time can be a headache. Online collaboration tools can be the solution to many of your problems!

These days, it’s very easy to work together online. Here are a few of my favorite online collaboration tools that you can put to use when that next group project comes around!

- **Google Drive**: Google drive lets you make documents, spreadsheets, and even PowerPoints that you can share with everyone in the group. This is especially helpful when you divide up parts of a project—everyone can work on the same document and add their individual parts to make your final project seamlessly consistent.

- **Collaborate**: Check under “Course Tools” in your classes. If you see something called Blackboard Collaborate, go in and give it a try! Collaborate is a great tool that allows you to work with your class through talk, text, and a “whiteboard” where you can write, draw, upload PowerPoints, and much more!

- **Doodle**: Having trouble setting up a time for your group to meet? Doodle.com lets you create a table of multiple days and times so that you and your group-mates can see all of the timeslots that work for everyone. Working in groups can be fun as long as you have a good way to work together. Give some of these suggestions a try! If you have any questions, stop by the library and we can show you the ropes of online collaboration!

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# Going the Distance!

By Sarah Cox, LWC Coordinator

The Learning and Writing Center at JCHS literally goes the distance. With on-line writing appointments, students who commute can email papers for critiques and APA direction by using the Starfish appointment option under Blackboard. The Track Changes feature in Microsoft Word allows us to highlight problem areas and insert comments with explanations. Another way we have reached out to distance learners is by setting up Blackboard Collaborate, a feature you can find under the Student Central option on your Blackboard page. From Student Central, select Learning & Writing Center option on the left side of the page; from there, scroll down to the bottom, where you will find LWC-Blackboard Collaborate Classroom. With a tutor at JCHS and a student some distance away, Collaborate acts as a virtual classroom, supplying the tutor with an on-line whiteboard to write out problems and discuss solutions. All the student needs is a computer that has video and audio capabilities. We are doing a “soft launch” of this currently with a few of our tutors who have distance tutees. See you in the LWC, or online!
Our second annual JCHS 5K Riverside Run & Wellness Walk will be held on Saturday, November 9! Register online now at http://jchs5k.com If you do not want to participate by walking or running, but still want to support your school, you can also register to volunteer for this event online at http://jchs.5k.com Hope to see you there!

The Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society nursing scholarships will be awarded on November 7 at the induction of new members. Three $500 scholarships will be awarded.

Happenings Around Campus

Party in the Patrick Henry!
By Katie Allen, Coordinator, Residence Life
Our party was a hit! It was great to see all groups of our JCHS community represented. The students did a fantastic job with each of their costumes!

November 4-10: Jefferson Serves—a week devoted to promoting and recognizing volunteerism.

"Say Booo! to the Flu"!
The flu shot clinic on Oct. 30th had a great turnout with 112 individuals getting the flu vaccine—over 70% of those vaccinated were JCHS students. With about 20 student volunteers from SNA, AMSA, and the PTA program for the clinic, the clinic went very smoothly with minimal wait times. I truly appreciated everyone's help with making this clinic a success! A special thank you goes out to Dr. Bishop for making it possible for JCHS students to get a free flu shot. Thanks, Diana Willeman-Buckelew (Dr. WB)

Student Senate News by Kelly Berry, Student Senate President The Student Senate is hosting a Thanksgiving dinner on November 21st from 11:30am to 1pm in the Doghouse. We are asking all clubs to submit information about what your club has done this semester by November 7th. Send to Kelly Berry, Student Senate President. We are also asking each club to donate 5 shoeboxes of Christmas items for children. We will collect the boxes at the Thanksgiving dinner on November 21st.