VIRTUAL PORTFOLIO DEFENSE

A guide to designing authentic culminating assessment in the virtual space

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A NOTE TO USERS:

Dear Educators, Innovators + Systems leaders,

Welcome! Thanks for checking out the Virtual Portfolio Defense Toolkit. We wanted to drop a quick note about who this Toolkit is "for."

This package has been designed for learning communities looking to leverage or advance their performance assessment system during these virtual times.

Keep an ‘eye out’ for accompanying tools to follow to support with roll out and implementation.

To connect with us directly please reach out through our website at envisionlearning.org or on @EnvisionSchools.

You've got this- and we've got you.

- The Envision Learning Partners Team
We understand this journey toward a Virtual Defense in 3 parts.

**THE PATH**

Design, Reflect, Collaborate, Calibrate, Revise, Practice

**THE EVENT**

Demonstrate, Perform, Inquire, Finalize

**THE FUTURE**

Reflect, Debrief, Plan, Act
THE TIMELINE

THE PATH
3-4 WEEKS
Design, Reflect, Collaborate, Calibrate, Revise, Practice

THE EVENT
1 WEEK
Demonstrate, Perform, Inquire, Finalize

THE FUTURE
2 WEEKS
Reflect, Debrief, Plan, Act

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There are many ways a successful virtual presentation of learning might look!

However, in order to meet criteria there are some key Design Principles to consider.

**DESIGN PRINCIPLES**

- **Students Design How They Want to Show Up**
- **Dialogue Is the Primary Mode**
- **Presentation Is the Secondary Mode**
- **Design an Authentic Experience for All Stakeholders**
- **The Event Should Be As Public As Possible**
- **Every Student Has a Mentor**
- **Build Experience in Week Chunks**
Where are you in the process of building a performance assessment system?

What are your assets?

**HOPES**

- How do you want students to feel?
- How will the design of this experience signal what you value?
- How does this new context shift the ways you have thought about this event in the past?
- What might adults need to best support students?

**ASSETS**

- What work + learning have your students already done that can be highlighted?
- What rubrics or artifact certification processes might you already use?
- What processes + protocols for critique, revision and reflection do you already use?
- What familiar structure might you shift in order to support this event?
Based on your hopes and assets, we would like to recommend a prototype for you to build upon.

Which best fits your context and aspirations?

DO YOU ALREADY HAVE....

- A GRADUATE PROFILE?
- SHARED RUBRICS?
- ADVISORY?
- A CULTURE OF CRITIQUE AND REVISION?

JUST MAKE IT VIRTUAL!

DECISION POINT

IS YOUR PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT SYSTEM NEWLY EMERGED OR NOT YET IN PLACE?

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A WAY TO ASSESS STUDENT LEARNING THROUGH STUDENT REFLECTION?

CHECK OUT LEVEL 1

WHICH PATH?

CHECK OUT LEVEL 2

CHECK OUT LEVEL 3

BEEN THERE?

READY TO INNOVATE?

TAKE YOUR DEFENSE SYSTEM TO THE NEXT LEVEL BY TINKERING WITH SCALE, PROCESS AND IMPACT!

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Are you looking for a way to ask your students to reflect on what they have learned?

**THE REFLECTIVE PRESENTATION**

**SKILLS FOCUS:**
- Self-directed learning
- Graduate profile skill of choice

**STUDENT REFLECTS ON THEIR WORK IN RELATIONSHIP TO 1-2 SKILLS**

**STUDENT LED CONFERENCE STYLE**

**AUDIENCE:**
- Family + Teacher

**FEEDBACK + Q&A ARE BASED ON DEPTH OF REFLECTION**

**ZOOM CALL**

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**The Virtual Defense of Learning**

### The Path
- Weekly Plan for Students, Advisors & Admin
- Weekly 1:1 Coaching
- Small Crew Advisory
- Weekly Artifact Reflection + Submission
- Peer:Peer Critique
- Event Practice

### The Event
- Early Submission of Portfolio
- Full Panel of 4-5
- 10 Min Presentation
- 20 Q & A Dialogue

### The Future
- Debrief Protocol with Student
- Coaching on Future Implications w/ Action Plan
- Crew Closure + Celebration of Process and Product

Do you already have....
- A graduate profile?
- Shared rubrics?
- Advisory?
- A culture of critique and revision?

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'LIVE STREAM' RITE OF PASSAGE

VIRTUAL PORTFOLIO DEFENSE

PROTOTYPE LEVEL 3

AUDIENCE GOALS:
- The more the merrier
- "Attend this celebration"

IMPACT GOALS:
- Invite college admissions folks
- Invite future employers
- Invite mentors + supports

OUTCOMES GOALS:
- Showcase growth
- Demonstrate readiness to move forward

Impact goals:
- Invite college admissions folks
- Invite future employers
- Invite mentors + supports

Collaboration ideas:
- Partner with another school and present to one another
- Find a local organization to present to

Other ideas:
- Live stream a job interview
- Create a website
- Host a virtual gallery w/ Q&A
- Do a live demonstration of a developed skill
- Make a podcast series
- Partner with another school and present to one another
- Find a local organization to present to

Ready to innovate?

Take your defense system to the next level by tinkering with scale, process and impact!

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THE FUTURE FRAME

Wooohoo!
Congratulations!

Now What?

THREE OPPORTUNITIES FOR REFLECTION

THE PROCESS

How did our implementation of virtual defenses uphold the hopes and values that we used in our design?

What innovation do we want to celebrate?

STUDENT LEARNING

What do we now know via the virtual portfolio and defenses about what our students know?

ADULT LEARNING

What data did we learn from portfolios and defenses to inform the design and content of our school model going forward?

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MOCK-UP

Using the Design Principles

HOW DO YOU WANT STAKEHOLDERS TO FEEL? (STUDENTS, STAFF, FAMILIES, AUDIENCE?)

WHO WILL THE AUDIENCE BE?

WHO WILL THE MENTORS BE? HOW MIGHT YOU LEVERAGE ALL ADULTS IN YOUR SYSTEM?

WHAT CHOICES WILL STUDENTS GET TO MAKE?

MOCK UP THE EVENT. WHAT WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE PRESENTATION? HOW WILL YOU RUN Q & A?

MAP THE JOURNEY IN WEEK-LONG CHUNKS...

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"TIGHT ON CRITERIA. LOOSE ON PATH."