TIPS TO CONNECT WITH STUDENTS TO A DIGITAL CLASSROOM

POLLING

Use the tools embedded in your online classroom to create polls or have students vote in the chat with “thumbs up” type icons. This allows you to get a quick check on how everyone is doing without having to call on students directly. It also ensures all students get a chance to participate.

PRIVATE CHAT

Students need to be seen and known in the online classroom. Ensure they know you are open and available to chat during class. Assign a timed activity for students to complete and answer chats you have and reach out privately to students you know may be struggling- just as you would in the physical classroom.

TEAM UP

Where possible, team up with another teacher. Having a facilitator and a partner will make this process easier for both of you. While you are presenting information on-camera, the other “host” can answer chat, share links to activities, create polls and generally provide support. This is a best practice for online learning, and having a colleague for support always makes change easier for both of you!