

OPEN EDUCATION

Open High School of Utah

The Open High School of Utah is a full-service online charter high school serving students across the state of Utah. It is a free public option that provides individualized instruction tailored to student needs and schedules.

Students can go full time or take one or two classes in addition to attending their traditional high school. All students learn through technology, with open educational resources that are aligned with Utah state standards as the foundation of content.

The Mission

The mission of Open High School of Utah "is to facilitate lifelong success by meeting the needs of the 21st-century learner through individualized, student-centered instruction; innovative technology; service learning; and personal responsibility."

Students' Thoughts

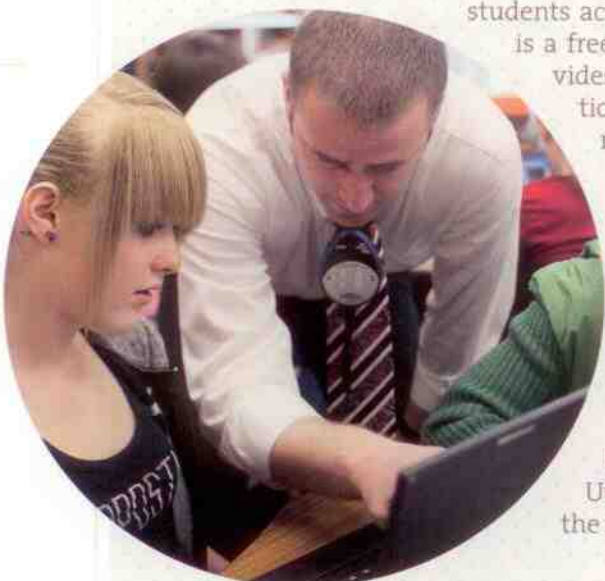
Students report that they like the individual attention they receive from one-on-one tutoring with an emphasis on personal learning. With open resources, teachers are able to modify the curriculum to meet individual needs. Students love the flexibility and mobility of the program.

The Reach of "Open"

The curriculum is accessible to anyone in the world. For instance, the devastating 2011 earthquakes in New Zealand placed a great strain on the educational system because many of the country's schools were damaged or destroyed. The Greater Christchurch Schools Network provided a form of blended learning and online learning for the teachers and students, with the greatest single addition of curriculum coming from Open High School of Utah.

Options in Open

DeLaina Tonks, director of Open High School of Utah, feels that school choice creates options for students but also provides career options for educators. She says that today's educators "are able to match their ideal teaching position with the school environment that best fits their schedule and ultimate vision for education." This is true for the traditional public school or a charter, private, or online virtual school.



In large schools, ▲ portable laptops are shared within the school so there is more access to technology for students.