**COVID 2025: How an Explosion in Remote Learning Changes Education – Randal Picker on COVID 19**

It’s an awful time in the world but I think it’s really interesting time in education. We’ve never had a moment like this one where everyone at the same time has jumped into the technology.

The corona virus is changing life as we know it on a daily basis. It called covid 2025 we’ll explore how the pandemic is rewriting our future.

**How an explosion in *remote learning* changes education**

The ability to teach through the technology is really powerful. I can lecture, I can call on students, I can engage in Socratic dialogue. I can replicate what I can do in the classroom. Things that had been hard in the past, bringing the guest speakers, being in multiple campuses at once the ability to tie those together in much more seemless fashion, I think that’s exciting. Distance shrinks in this medium, I think we’re going to see it used throughout education in the United States, at precollege level, college professional level. That’s exciting acroos the planet.

**How does technology impact educators?**

There’s definitely been a trend towards remote learning but I think that’s been unevenly distributed. This is going to give us a second set of tools. We’ve had one way of doing things and now we’re going have an additional way of doing this. And I think that’s what’s exciting. It’s just like you’re a chef of something where all of a sudden, I said here’s an entirely new set of ingredients you’ve never worked with.

**Can remote learning bridge the *socio-economic divide?***

To really make this technology work and to do so on the widest-possible basis. We need to have the physical infrastructure in place to do that. So you’ve been reading stories about what’s happening at the precollege level, place where they’d like to do online education, and they don’t have internet. They don’t have a device to do that. We frame that as the “digital devide”. I am teaching a class right now where we’re talking about Federal Communication Commission broadband a policy. Broadban’s so incredibly important. So had this happened 10 years ago, I think we wouldn’t be doing anything like we’re doing now. When we built this country, we made a decision to make a the post office, which was the most directed instantiation of the federal government. We put it everywhere, even in rural towns where there was no way that made financial sense because we wanted everyone to be connected together in this new democratic enterprise that was the United States. Shrinking the digital divide is really about federal resources, the COVID crisis makes it clear how important it is.

**Are there *privacy* concerns?**

Privacy issues are obviously important. And now as we bring this into our educational environment, what am I allowed to screenshot? Can I take pictures of students? Are those educational records? We have federal privacy statue for student records that controls all of that. If I want use the camera to take the screenshot it’s not as visible as it is in a classroom and how we bring the right privacy values to this environment is something we’re gonna work out. Low evolves in conjunction with social evolution and as technology evolves and how we’re using technology evolves lock comes around along with it.

**What concerns does *technology in the classroom* bring?**

I think we need to be careful with regard to this technology. I think there will be temptation to think we can swap in technology for the in-person experience that show up in a classroom. And I think that will be wrong. I’m starring into a camera right now to the idea that we could put this camera in front of the classroom we’ve delivered an education. A rigorous education. An education where you test and consider ideas, reject some accept others, it would be mistake to think we can simply swap one in and swap out the other. We need to augment not replace.

**How will covid-19 impact education long term?**

Five years from now, have we’ll be beyond the medical crisis beyond the economic crisis and be able to take this technology in this period of experimentation. And we’ll able to think of that really how to put it to use. I think that means that we will be shrinking distances, we will able to bring people into a classroom in an easy fashion the country, the world runs on ideas, we need to get those ideas in many possible ways to many possible people. I think this technology is going to help us do that.