



[Student Spotlight: 11th Grader Josh M.](#)

Posted by [PA Distance Learning](#) on 12/9/19 7:00 AM

Josh M. enrolled in PA Distance Learning Charter School (PDLCS) as a kindergartner, and now, as an 11th grader, **he has almost completed his high school education entirely with PDLCS.**

As a longtime member of the PA Distance family, Josh has had many positive experiences during his time as a student and explained that it's hard to pick his favorite part about the school. Two standout parts

about PA Distance, Josh explained, are the teachers and the opportunities awarded to him.

“The teachers are amazing and are really kind people,” he said.

“There are so many opportunities at PA Distance and, because of that, I’ve been able to work with a teacher to help create a [website](#) specifically for kid’s fitness,” he added.



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“Fitness is my passion and I want to help others when it comes to fitness,” he said.

As a fellow in the PA Distance Odyssey Program, he has been given the opportunity to create his own brand and [website](#) to promote his fitness knowledge to others.

Josh’s favorite subjects during his time at PA Distance are the health and wellness courses. Currently, he also enjoys a class he is taking about social changes and how society has changed throughout history.

One prevalent misconception surrounding cyber schools across the country is the thought that students are isolated and don't get the social interaction that they may get if they attended a brick and mortar school. This couldn't be further from the truth.

Josh is from Woodland, PA and has had the opportunity to meet other students from other cities and towns. "I've made many friends through PA Distance that live all across Pennsylvania," he explained.

Students also have the opportunity to attend a variety of field trips hosted by PA Distance across the state. For example, in **November**, we organized a series of field trips for students to visit grocery stores, food assistance program facilities, and food banks across Pennsylvania.

"I often get to meet up with my friends in person during field trips that we go on throughout the year," Josh noted.

Another misconception among people outside of the PA Distance community often think is that our teachers don't have the same connections with students that they might have if they saw them in person every day. Again, that couldn't be further from the truth.

Our teachers' jobs don't end when the proverbial school bell rings at the end of each day. They are accessible outside of the virtual classroom and care about each and every one of their students' success.

"My experience with PA Distance has been great. I can't imagine myself at any other school," Josh explained. "The teachers not only helped me academically but also personally," he added.

Josh isn't the only one in his family that attends PA Distance. His younger brother, who is in 4th grade, and his younger sister, who is in 1st grade, are both enrolled. This turns out to be a positive experience for them both, Josh notes.

"They sit next to each other during the school day and get to interact. At other schools they would be separated, since they are in different grades, so it's really comforting to them to have each other during the day," he explains.

Josh is interested in pursuing a career in fitness and healthy living, he explained, and after graduation, Josh hopes to attend college and major in Kinesiology and go on to earn a Master's degree in physical therapy.



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Everyone at PA Distance looks forward to seeing all of the great things that Josh will do in his future and wish him great success.

