URcast Terms & Definitions

This guide is designed to help you understand the terminology used in a URcast System. Some of these are unique to URcast, but many should be familiar and similar to other systems you have used.

Message Builder – This is the application through which teachers create messages to seamlessly deliver to student devices.

Message Center – This is the application that students use to receive messages from their teachers.

Message – A message is the lesson or assignment that the teacher builds in Message Builder and the student receives in Message Center. The message can include instructions, content and even a reply request.

Shared Classes - These are URcast classes that are shared by several teachers. Teachers that are members of this class can send messages to all the students that sign up for the class. An example: One of our customers had a shared Math class with 3 teachers as members. One teacher recorded and submitted videos of the lessons. A second teacher prepared and submitted homework assignments and the third teacher prepared test prep materials. Students in each of the teachers individual classes signed up for this shared class and received content from all three teachers.

Units - We allow teachers to define units any way they choose. Some teachers choose to use the actual unit they are teaching. An example: Mrs. Warren's math class has a unit on Fractions, Variables, and the Quadratic Equation. Other teachers choose to have untraditional units. An example: Mrs. Varner's second grade class has a units defined as Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday. Her students know what their assignments for the day are by looking at the unit that corresponds to the current day.

Release Date – The date that a message is release to student devices.

Expire Date – The date that URcast stops sending messages to student devices. The message is not removed from student devices but it is no longer delivered. An example: Mrs. Warren sends a message to her students on Monday. She sets the expiration date for Friday. Suzy is absent on Monday and Tuesday. However, when Suzy returns to school on Wednesday she is able to receive the message. Bobby is out on Monday and doesn't return to school until Monday of the next week. Bobby will not be able to receive the message when he returns to school because the message is no longer being delivered.

Cleanup Date – The date the URcast removes a message and its content from student devices.

Teacher Code – The text string that identifies a teacher that is used to organize Messages. This value is used along with a Class Code to specify where Message Builder will publish a Message. The value is also used with the Class Code by Message Center to sign up for a class. The combination of a Teacher Code and Class Code identifies a unique class.

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