League of Innovative Schools

Mastery Based Learning

November 10, 2014
FPS - Designing for Continuous Improvement

- Vision of the Graduate (2009)
- Core Beliefs (2010)
- Framework for Teaching and Learning (2010)
- Design Team (2011)
- Mastery Based Learning (2013)

WHY

HOW

WHAT
Farmington Public Schools: All Students Meeting Global Standards of Achievement, Leadership, and Citizenship

Vision of the Graduate

Graduates will acquire an understanding of the essential knowledge and skills in the core academic disciplines and develop the thinking and learning skills needed to meet the challenges of local, national and global citizens in a rapidly changing world.

  Critical Thinking and Reasoning
  Communication and Collaboration
  Problem Solving and Innovation
  Self-direction and Resourcefulness

Core Beliefs – That Guide the District’s Work

  Expectations Matter
  Effort Matters
  Instruction Matters
  Relationships Matter
  Results Matter
Relationships Matter

All staff members create and maintain an environment that promotes respect, trust, and understanding, and fosters communication and problem-solving. We nurture the whole child and ensure that each student receives a new opportunity every day to perform at his/her best. We believe that developing caring and supportive relationships between and among educators, students, and parents leads to higher levels of student achievement.
Farmington Public Schools: All Students Meeting Global Standards of Achievement, Leadership, and Citizenship

Framework for Teaching and Learning

Active Learning Community
Challenging Expectations
Meaningful Knowledge
Purposeful Engagement
Individual Responsibility

Design Team
Farmington Public Schools
Framework for Teaching and Learning

Core Principals of Learning
Teaching Expectations

Principle #1: ACTIVE LEARNING COMMUNITY
Students learn best when they have a sense of belonging to a positive learning community in which they have regular opportunities to work collaboratively.

Principle #2: CHALLENGING EXPECTATIONS
Students learn best when they understand performance expectations and are individually supported in meeting challenging standards.

Principle #3: MEANINGFUL KNOWLEDGE
Students learn best when they see content as meaningful and organized around big ideas and questions and can transfer learning to new contexts.
Principle #4: PURPOSEFUL ENGAGEMENT

Students learn best when they are actively engaged in authentic learning tasks and given opportunities to construct meaning and develop understanding.

**Teachers**

- Structure learning tasks that engage students in authentic work of the discipline
- Develop inquiry-oriented lessons in response to essential questions
- Pose complex, intriguing and challenging problems for students to solve
- Stimulate critical and creative thinking and model active listening
- Use multi-media and technology tools to enhance learning outcomes
- Seek and provide real audiences for student work
- Act as coaches, facilitators, and guides to promote engagement and develop leadership in students
Principle #5: INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITY

Students learn best when they make choices about and take responsibility for their own learning goals and progress.
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**Students**
- Actively seek answers to their own questions and explore their interests
- Hypothesize, analyze, question, and evaluate ideas within the work of the discipline
- Accept opportunities to assume partnership and leadership roles in the classroom
- Take initiative to bring interesting ideas and resources into the classroom community
- Think critically and use reasoning skills to develop understanding
- Think creatively and use problem solving skills to develop innovative ideas
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Farmington High School Design Team

The Charge: The Design Team will review data, research exemplary practices, and consider stakeholder feedback toward the end of producing a report that summarizes the findings and outlines a set of recommendations for the pervasive engagement of students throughout the high school that include but are not limited to:
Students take an active role in planning their own education. A strong advisory and guidance program helps students explore college and career options and make thoughtful decisions. Students customize a learning pathway that aligns with their interests and goals. All students have access to alternative learning options including advanced studies, certificate programs, blended learning and other options as they emerge both within and outside of the classroom. By using student success plans, and portfolios, rubrics and online course management tools, teachers help students direct their own educational experience.
Design Team Recommendations

Build a Continuum of Independence

The schools schedule, curriculum, and learning opportunities are all intentionally designed to build capacity for self-directed, independent learning on the part of every student. The ninth grade curriculum provides a foundation for more sophisticated and complex learning in the upper grades. Students establish and maintain a culture of respect and responsibility that allows for greater independence in each success grade. Peer mentoring supports a strong commitment to scholarship, leadership and respectful relationships. The entire faculty feels collectively responsible for the academic success, personal growth and well-being of every student.

Benchmark Against Global Standards
Design Team Recommendations

Make Achievement the Constant and Time the Variable

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Design Space for Self-Direction and Collaboration
League of Innovative Schools

Presentation available at:
http://casci.ac/1106