

Introductions

- ▶ ME: Susan R. Nedza, School Counselor at BRHS in LKSD
- ▶ Past – Instructional Leader, Principal, Director, Counselor
- ▶ Who's in the room?



Personalized Learning Plans

WHAT ARE THEY?

WHY ALASKA?

Personalized learning is . . .

. . . instruction that is differentiated and paced to the needs of the learner and shaped by the learning preferences and interests of the learner.

- Ronald Taylor and Azeb Gebre in *Handbook on Personalized Learning*

Personalized Learning Is NOT:

- ▶ Do what you want all the time
- ▶ Free for all
- ▶ Non-directed
- ▶ Always technology
- ▶ Every lesson, every class

Why Alaska?

- Diverse Population with a high rate of trauma
- Rural Schools and Budget Issues = Need for Flexibility
- Subsistence, medical travel and other absence issues
- Distance from resources such as colleges

Trauma Sensitive Schools

Tips that fit PLPs

- ▶ Helping children have a sense of agency
- ▶ Building on strengths
- ▶ Always empower, never disempower
- ▶ Be a relationship coach
- ▶ Provide guided opportunities for helpful participation

The Heart of Learning and Teaching: Compassion, Resiliency, and Academic Success
Helping Traumatized Children Learn

What is targeted learning?

Learning is targeted, aligned, and personal, emphasizing student responsibility and learning skills.

1. instruction is carefully aligned with the curriculum,
2. the teacher directly teaches new concepts, skills, and facts,
3. enhancement and mastery are accomplished by focusing the instructional strategies to meet the **data-determined learning** requirements of the individual student through a student learning plan,
4. students are taught skills and strategies to monitor and direct their learning and are expected to accept responsibility for their learning. Student-teacher interaction, both academic and social, is essential
5. Alliance for Achievement CSR model (2002-2006)

How we learn - activity

- ▶ Teaching kids about themselves
- ▶ Process that should be part of daily routine
- ▶ Teach kids to track themselves

Personalized Learning and technology

- ▶ Personalized learning is made practical by technology that:
 - ✓ organizes curricular content
 - ✓ facilitates differentiation
 - ✓ opens vast and diverse avenues of learning
 - ✓ provides ongoing checks of mastery
 - ✓ ultimately confirms mastery

What does Personalized Learning look like?

- Activity 2
- Environment
- Routine
- Options

Use of Technological Tools

- ▶ Blended learning and flipped learning
- ▶ Online learning
- ▶ Online testing for mastery
- ▶ MOOCs (massive, open, online courses), and other Internet-enabled methods.
- ▶ Predictive analytics are applied to continuously adjust learning tasks to demonstrated mastery, build in review spirals, and ensure each student's sufficient background of skill and knowledge before moving forward. **No need for interventions?**

Aspects of Personalized Learning

1. **Flexible credit schemes**

(a) dual enrollment and early college high schools, (b) credit recovery, and (c) multiple paths to graduation.

2. **Service learning**

3. **Internships, job shadowing and work based learning**

4. **Differentiated staffing:** taking advantage of teachers' different skills and interests

5. **Acceleration and enrichment**

6. **Recognition** of mastery with badges, certificates, and credits

7. **Student learning plans (SLPs)**

8. **Study groups** and research teams enable students to work together to design projects aimed toward a hypothesis or outcome. The students may be members of a class or the group may be assembled across the miles via the Internet.

Building Personal Competencies

Motivational

1. Promote a growth mindset.
2. Connect learning tasks to the student's personal aspirations.
3. Differentiate (personalize) assignments.
4. Help students "find the fun" in learning rather than simply making tasks fun.
5. Stretch the student's interests to find value in new topics (acquired relevance).
6. Celebrate mastery.
7. Help parents understand their influence on their children's mindset.

Building Personal Competencies

Social/Emotional

1. Teach and reinforce positive social skills and relationships.
2. Model responsible behavior, caring, optimism, and positive verbal interactions.
3. Establish classroom norms for personal responsibility, cooperation, and concern for others.
4. Be attentive to students' emotional states and guide students in managing their emotions.
5. Help students set constructive goals for learning and social relationships.
6. Use cooperative learning methods.
7. Encourage questioning, seeking help from others, and offering help to others.
8. Arrange for support services from school counselors and social workers when students demonstrate a need for support.

Grading

- ▶ Growth based
- ▶ Standards based
- ▶ Tied to PLP
- ▶ Education for all stakeholders is very important

Resources

- ▶ <http://www.collegesuccess1.com/HandoutsLearningStyle.htm>
- ▶ <https://www.teachingchannel.org/videos/personalized-learning-plans-edv>