

Secondary Curriculum & Instruction

INTENTIONAL PLANNING / FOCUSED TEACHING / AUTHENTIC LEARNING

PBL

Project-Based Learning is shown to increase student engagement and student achievement. (Strategic Plan Goal Area 2.1.2)

What is PBL?

- Project-based learning is a student-centered instructional model that focuses on a driving question with real-world applications. It isn't just a class project.
- PBL focuses on student-driven learning and student-selected end-products that are shared with the world outside the classroom. It's not a recipe in which all students produce the same thing.
- PBL can be solo or group endeavors, but they are always sustained inquiry.
 - A student-developed agricultural exchange between Russian and Oklahoma farmers and ranchers in which Oklahomans would teach sustainable practices to Russians was created in response to a guiding question about using cultural exchanges to increase mutual respect and to decrease hostile acts between nations (2014, CHS ELA 2, World Literature).
 - Students designed and tested a scale model of a Viking long ship in response to a guiding question about how culture spread prior to the digital age (2015, CHS English 2, World Literature).
 - When studying westward expansion students have to determine which gear and supplies to purchase and transport on limited budgets, limited space, and limited hauling capacity (2012, Museum of the Rockies, Bozeman, MT).
- Free PBL resources are linked on page 3.

1

WORD WALLS

in use daily, tracked,
and documented

2

LESSON PLANS

standards linked & in
the team drive & on
your web page by 7:00
Monday morning

3

MICROPHONE

Save your voice. Use it.
Use it in every class.
Use it every day.

GCN Training

The deadline for GCN training is October 31. If you want to earn your stipend, please make sure you have all of your trainings completed by then. Trainings must be completed on your own time. (GA 3.3.1)

Reading Plus

is available for all CMS teachers. All students can benefit from becoming better readers. (GA 1.3.1)

Upward Bound

CHS Teachers: Please encourage your students to apply for Upward Bound. More information can be found here: <https://goo.gl/9uZYTm> (GA 1.3.1)

OSDE Math Meetings

The third Thursday of the month the "Like Terms" statewide **online** math teachers' meetings are at 4:00. Math teachers can use this in their PLF. <https://goo.gl/eu2gaM> (GA 3.3.1)

Classroom Management

Keep your Bearing (Strategic Plan Goal Area 3.2.1)

Strategies for maintaining your composure can make the difference in your classroom climate. I can tell you that I have used each of these, and they have made a difference in my practice.

1. Calm Is Contagious. If you can take a deep breath, count to ten, roll your earlobe, or wait a beat before responding, and you remain calm, you can often deescalate, or at least avoid escalating, many situations in the classroom.
2. “Engage your brain before you engage your weapon.” -James “Mad Dog” Mattis. As educators, we have to understand that what we say matters. Measure your words carefully. Deescalate if need be, but by all means, be careful what you say to students.
3. Teach deescalation strategies to your students. Colin Powell says that many conflicts can be deescalated with three simple phrases, “yes, ma’am; no, ma’am; and I’m sorry, ma’am.” Teaching our students to deescalate, to respond in the negative in a strong, but respectful manner, and to take ownership of mistakes can make all the difference. Providing a safe space for

students to do so, and teaching them how, are both critical. They don’t always know.

High Quality Resources for Educators

(Strategic Plan Goal Area 2.2.1; 2.2.2; 4.1.2)

Open ED

The Open Ed Dashboard has teacher-created and vendor-created resources that you can access for free. The database is searchable, and you can have students and parents set up accounts to access what you select. Did I mention that it’s free?

<https://www.opened.com/dashboard>

PBS Teacherline

PBS Teacherline is high-quality, self guided PD for teachers. The courses are excellent, and the offerings are wide-ranging. Many are specific to subject areas. As you work on your Professional Learning Focus, take a look at these resources. And it’s free!

<http://www.pbs.org/teacherline/>

AP & SAT Prep

Khan Academy is now providing free SAT, AP, and ACT Prep. Once again, did I mention that it’s free?

<https://goo.gl/2h6sdj>

100% GRADUATION

In every grade level, and in every subject area, our goal is to reach 100% graduation for our students. What you do with your students every day should help to make sure your students are on track to graduate on time.

Free PBL Resources!

Project-Based Learning is shown to increase student engagement and student achievement. (Strategic Plan Goal Area 1.1.1)

Edutopia

- PBL Planning: <https://www.edutopia.org/blogs/tag/pbl-planning>
- PBL Assessment: <https://www.edutopia.org/blogs/tag/pbl-assessment>
- How to Fix PBL Gone Wrong: <https://www.edutopia.org/blog/pbl-failure-planning-successful-pbl-katie-spear>
- Designing Quality PBL: <https://www.edutopia.org/video/5-keys-rigorous-project-based-learning>

BIE (Buck Institute for Education)

- What is PBL? https://www.bie.org/about/what_pbl
- Gold-Standard PBL: http://www.bie.org/blog/gold_standard_pbl_essential_project_design_elements

ASCD

- <https://goo.gl/xJyx>

ESSDAK Webinars

- <https://goo.gl/LyZ79X>

Moonshot Thinking

- This is a good video to launch your students into their PBL experience.
- <https://goo.gl/sn46JQ>

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