



August 21, 2017

As we continue on our journey to personalize learning for ALL students, the Teaching and Learning Department in Eastern Carver County would like to share a few things about the up and coming school year.

WIN (What I Need):

Stands for “What I need” and is a block of time in all of our buildings in which students will have an opportunity for academic intervention, prevention, and extension of learning targets, as well as enrichment based on interest.

Offerings will have an intentional purpose based on learners’ needs.

Academic Prevention - *Just-in-time help focused on current learning targets of the course. Learners choose or are encouraged to attend. (i.e. slightly behind pace/catch-up, coaching workshops, conferencing, additional practice, redo/retakes, technology practice (i.e. IXL, Manga High, Gizmos, No Red Ink), etc.)*

Academic Intervention - *Help focused on learning targets and skills learners have not obtained resulting in them being behind pace. Students are required to attend. (i.e. behind pace/catch-up, coaching workshops, conferencing, additional practice, required redo/retakes, targeted interventions, tutoring, check and connect/mentoring, etc.)*

Academic Extension - *Opportunities for learners to extend learning targets. (i.e. moving ahead seminars, group flex, curiosity investigations, content challenges, makerspace, interdisciplinary projects, etc.)*

Enrichment - *Experiences based on interests and curiosities centered around specific outcomes. (i.e. learner interest groups, group flex, curiosity investigations, content challenges, makerspace, interdisciplinary projects, service learning, etc.)*

Behaviors for Learning:

Educating learners is not limited to academics. The ability to learn and grow in life skills is a part of the educational experience. Eastern Carver County Schools separates behaviors of a successful learner from academic achievement levels. Student progress on Behaviors for Learning will be communicated through Infinite Campus at the end of each semester (middle & high school) or trimester (elementary).

A district-wide Positive Behavior Intervention System (PBIS) promotes positive behaviors of Preparedness, Respect, Integrity, Dependability and Excellence (P.R.I.D.E). P.R.I.D.E. behaviors and characteristics define a student’s disposition and include motivation, mindset, grit/perseverance and work ethic.

To this end, teachers will report on *Behaviors that Support Learning* in addition to academic success. These behaviors are:

- Strives for personal best
- Shows respectful behavior
- Interacts collaboratively with peers
- Engages in learning
- Exhibits responsibility

These behaviors are introduced to our youngest learners in age-appropriate vocabulary as they begin school. The school as a learning community reinforces these behaviors at each level into high school by providing context for each environment. As students mature and take on greater responsibility, they confer with teachers about their progress and the parallels between their academic learning and the behaviors that favorably contribute to their marked success.

Empower:

Empower is an online tool that supports standards-based learning. *Empower* gives students, teachers and families a common framework to see what has been learned, along with evidence of the learning, and what's next in a student's education. Students, families and teachers can monitor and track the learning process with greater ease and clarity. In addition, *Empower* has the ability to serve as a digital learning platform where students can access resources, identified by teachers, that support their learning. During this time of implementation, some of your child's courses/classes may be reported in Infinite Campus (Campus Portal) while others in *Empower*.

We have been methodically implementing *Empower* in Eastern Carver County Schools over the last two school years. Our implementation strategy has allowed us to learn what works best for students, parents and teachers, in addition to supporting our commitment to a successful, scaled rollout. This fall, roughly 200 teachers across the district will be using *Empower*. To prepare for the integration of *Empower*, staff have participated in professional development focused on instructional best practices, standards-based curriculum design and review, and training specific to *Empower*. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

For additional information on this or any of Eastern Carver County School information, visit our websites at www.district112.org or <http://wearepersonalizedlearning.org/>

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