

Notes from the October 8, 2014
DPC Meeting 10:00 Lakota Central Office

Concerns and Anxieties re: Modern Delivery

Social skills always most important – Don't lose this, especially as tech gets more important

Balance expectations on students – kids are kids vs. stress of high expectations

Accountabilities/expectations of the system

Flexibility and creativity of teachers

Teachers need flexibility and creativity

Should families be forced to use technology?

Be careful about "fads", especially technology (Make sure everything is research based)

What about loss of technology or unavailability?

Student video "addition"

→ Too tied to internet

More balance issues

Make "it" about how each individual learns best

Modern delivery should help teachers individualize education per student

Delivery approach

- Include the kids' feedback in how we deliver their personal needs

How to pay for it?

Role/time of parents?

Parents need information/help

Pressure on teachers to handle the new models and individualize the education

Teachers need more time and training to do this right

How do we define the roles?

- The continuum?

Significantly different ways buildings are run can blindside parents

- Differing opportunities
- Roles of PTA giving stuff away
- T and E
- Advisory periods

Robust evaluation and feedback process as stuff is rolled out

- Two way communication loop

Ask students for input on their own learning

The community might push back on all of these new/individual delivery models

Internships Happen at right age

What vs. How

What do we want internships to provide our children?

Experience

Weed out likes/dislikes

Interaction with adults

More opportunities for internships (10th grade?) (When?)

****More shadowing****

Variety – Short term/exploration

Not just top fields (Medical, Accounting, Engineering)

Example: Office clerical, automotive, HR, teaching, restaurant/hotel management, photographer, bakery, the arts (smaller businesses)

Include all kids not just honors/advanced kids

Expose kids to real world groups (options, offerings)

5th - 6th grade to get ready for this in junior high and high schools

Internship Day (old Career Day) showcase options before kids have to choose – There are internships that are not linked to the schools – On Internship Day you can let kids know all these options – (Those companies can have a table.)

“Work Days” – 12 kids to a workplace they’ve never been for approximately 1-2 hours

Career Exploration Classes

Does an internship have to be such a rigid concept?

What do other schools do for internships?

Out of the Box

Online learning →

→ Additional credit

- Volunteer service → School credit?
- Programs and resources for parents to be able to help more at home
- Do we really need EVERY student to learn ALL strategies? → Allow the kids to choose their strategy
- Grade levels become less relevant, education based on standards mastery – Not age or grade level
- Less standardized testing
- More fluidity for travelling between “levels” throughout school career

One classroom = 25 kids

Mix it up with teaching teams

Allow flexibility to structure of classroom

Back to “tracks” so instruction can be more focused to student needs

Magnet schools

Use technology to allow kids to move ahead where feasible, provide acceleration and/or extra help by subject and not force students to fit a mold – Free the teachers to teach their best way

Exploratory vs. Pathways

What

- More options so can explore earlier
 - More electives in junior high!
 - Foreign language exposure in 5th and 6th
 - Arts at junior high and high school
- Investigation classes instead of pathway
- More pathway options at both high schools (East)
- Career experiences/exposure (Career Day) ~ Some tech integration – Remotely live feed
- More real life exposure through field trips – Career
- T and E career exposure 5th and 6th
- Better use of advisory and T and E and Extra Help
- Earlier interdisciplinary experiences (Time for staff collaboration)
- Shorter (semester) duration to increase exploratory options
- More grade-level educational opportunities (Themed, hands-on, brings it to life!)
- Continuity/same opportunities across buildings

How

Expand 7th bell in junior highs so can have more exploration in junior high and high school

Extracurriculars

- Exploratory classes – Outside of the school day (not a course)
 - ↳ Club version
- Sports experience...short session, friends (Social stress relief)
- 1 Hour/week over summer....Intro classes (concepts)
 - Fun
 - Choice
 - Try
 - ↳ Example: X-ray machines in hospital
Short Internship
- High school options...Experience down into lower grades
 - ↳ Example: Mentoring, SPARK, community service (high school students)
 - Big/Little ←
- Winter Break/Spring Break opportunities
- More time/\$cost\$
- Accessible to a wide-variety of students
- Sponsorships from outside the district (Business)
- Credit Y-or-N
- Parent awareness conversations (Fun Fair)
- K-6 Art/Music/PE → Extend for kids
- Elementary → Explore career paths
- Interchangeable programs
- Extended classrooms → Optional outside the classroom projects

Summer Opportunities

What vs. How

- Free up high school schedule →
 - Permits more exploration
 - Offer a diverse list of classes core vs. exploratory

- Look at year round school

- Summer academic camps (enrichment/intervention)
 - Cooking
 - Robotics
 - Arts
 - Literacy
 - Elementary Study Skills
 - Annunciation
 - CPR

- Summer language classes for elementary/junior

- Internships during summer (paid experiences)

- Educational camps → “Make accessible”
 - *Supports gym, music, art → Specials

- Career Fairs – Job interviews for real jobs

- Offer parent informational sessions/classes
 - Typically only offered during school year

- 6 Week classes for parents on various topics