

**Board Policy 1800 OE-1 - Fundamental 1:** *Create a personalized learning environment where differentiated instruction, student-centered education, and varied learning opportunities are responsive to students' strengths, needs, interests, and passions.*

### **Superintendent Interpretation – Fundamental 1**

*"Personalized Learning refers to instruction in which the pace of learning and the instructional approach are optimized for the needs of each learner. Learning objectives, instructional approaches and instructional content (and its sequencing) may all vary based on learner needs. In addition, learning activities are made available that are meaningful and relevant to learners, driven by their interests and often self-initiated." \* (2017 NETP)*

Key Elements:

- The pace of learning is adjusted
- Learning objectives, approaches, content, and tools are tailored and optimized for each learner
- Learning is driven by learner interests
- Learners are given choice in what, how, when and where they learn
- Learning is often supported by technology
- Students' natural curiosity and interests become springboards for engagement
- Relevant and authentic tasks allow students to examine concepts and problems in depth

Research in both brain development and learning sciences indicates that the quality and depth of student learning are enhanced when learning experiences align with students' interests. This alignment leads to meaningful connections by the student to the learning material.

Learning is personalized when working together, educators, parents, and students customize instruction as much as possible to students' individual developmental needs, skills, and interests. Through personalized learning, students are able to develop supportive relationships with each other and school staff.

\* U.S. Department of Education's 2016 National Educational Technology Plan (NETP); 2017 NETP Update

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