

WILLOUGHBY-EASTLAKE CITY SCHOOLS

CUSTOMIZED LEARNING EXPERIENCES

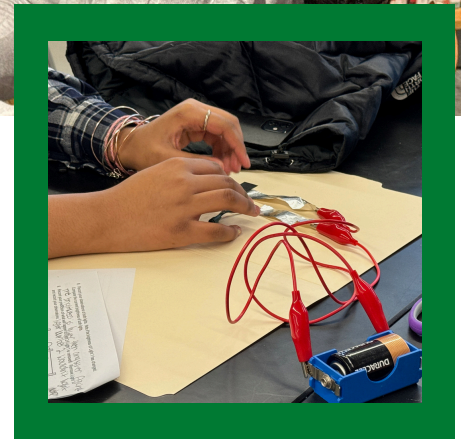


FLEX CLASSROOMS



Impact of Flex Classrooms

Flex classrooms provide students the opportunity and the agency to work through course content at their own pace. The flex classroom structure provides students with a customized learning experience tailored to their interests and needs as a learner. Goal setting, mastery checks, and reflection are important components of measuring student progress.



Rationale

Provides students:

- opportunities to take more classes over time to accelerate their learning and expand course choices.
- an adjusted learning pace and access to teachers for intervention.
- time and space to explore areas of interest in more depth aligned to the portrait competencies for enrichment.

EVERY PERSON MATTERS. EVERY MOMENT COUNTS.

KEY ELEMENTS OF A FLEX CLASS

- Foundational content digitized in a learning management system organized in weekly folders for easy access for students
- Student Learning Plan includes weekly, monthly and semester goals
- Class meets a minimum of three times per week for mini-lessons, small group discussion, lab experiences
- Twice per week students work in different learning areas as desired/needed to promote independence and autonomy based on grades and progress
- Student project/problem allows for deeper learning aligned to portrait competencies and course content each quarter
- Use of AI platform for career and interest survey as well as course customization
- Incentives available for early release/late arrival
- Literacy rich curriculum in all courses to provide authentic reading and writing experiences
- Assessment of learning occurs when students are ready and scheduled with the teacher



MISSION STATEMENT

The aim of the flex classroom is to create personalized learning experiences that offer structured flexibility, deeper learning, intervention, reflection opportunities and meaningful connections.

CORE VALUES

Agency

Optimal Pace

Career Connections

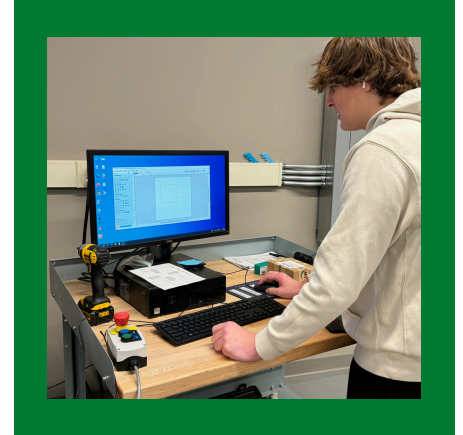
Portrait Aligned

Customized Deeper Learning

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING CLASSROOMS

KEY ELEMENTS OF A PROJECT- OR PROBLEM-BASED CLASSROOM

- Foundational content digitized in a learning management system and organized in weekly folders for easy access for students
- Course meets five days per week
- Independent work and lab time included as part of the experiential learning experience
- Student project/problem allows for deeper learning aligned to portrait competencies and course content
- Use of AI platform for career and interest survey as well as course customization
- Literacy rich curriculum in all courses to provide authentic reading and writing experiences
- Unit performance tasks build content knowledge
- Assessment of learning occurs when students are ready and will be scheduled with the teacher
- Learning is driven by challenging, open-ended problems with no one “right” answer
- Students work as self-directed, active investigators and problem-solvers in small collaborative groups (typically of about five students)
- The problem connects the content learning goals with previous knowledge
- Use of essential questions drives the learning



RATIONALE

Not every student learns content in a traditional fashion. For some students, the ability to apply and use content in real and authentic settings allows for deeper understanding and better prepares the student for lifelong learning.



CAPSTONE EXPERIENCE

The capstone learning experience is a culminating experience that leverages student interest and the portrait competencies, and provides for deeper learning. Rather than teaching subject-specific content, these courses develop students' skills in research, analysis, evidence-based arguments, collaboration, writing, and presentation skills. All of those elements are aligned to a career interest or service-oriented focus.

KEY ELEMENTS OF CAPSTONE

- Offered in senior year
- Service Capstone or Career Capstone allows students to explore either of those options based on interest
- Real connections to business and service organizations
- Design process focused and portrait aligned
- Agency and autonomy is the priority over pace of learning
- Propose and solve real world problems of practice
- Opportunity for internships and externships
- Opportunity to earn and learn while in school



RATIONALE

The Capstone is the seminal North Ranger or South Rebel experience in the school district. The Capstone provides the space for students, with the support of an academic coach/teacher, to explore a career interest or service project in great depth. This semester experience culminates in an authentic project/presentation that students use to demonstrate their learning.

WHY A CAPSTONE?

- Stand out to colleges in the application process
- Develop key academic skills used in other classes, college, military, and life
- Become self-confident, independent thinkers and problem solvers
- Earn elective credit, simultaneous credit, or, in some cases, college credit