

Astro Blast

Week of December 5-9



This week at Carr (12/5-12/9)

Monday	ILT Meeting	Rm. 301
Wednesday	Dept. Meetings	
Friday	Music Concert	Auditorium
Saturday	Soccer & Basketball Tournaments	Valley

Next Week at Carr (12/12-12/16)

Monday	SSC Meeting	Rm. 301
Wednesday	Literacy/Canvas	Rms. 310, 312
Thursday	Disaster Drill	3 rd Period

We have so much to celebrate at Carr, and thank you to the staff who are putting in extra time to support our students. However, in continuing to improve, we can see that there are still more opportunities that we can provide for our students. Looking to what other schools and school districts can teach us, our ILT's most recent interaction with Lindsay continues to inspire us to consider and incorporate more effective ways of teaching our students. Among an increasing number of districts, Lindsay uses a proficiency-based system. Students must show proficiency in a learning objective or milestone before moving on to a new topic, allowing students the opportunity to work at their own pace.

When we continue past material that students haven't mastered, we are passively telling students that past learning is not important or valued. We continue on even if we aren't proficient in what was presented. What we

want to do is encourage students to have a growth mindset and believe that not reaching a goal is not something that we dismiss or is permanent – students just haven't reached the goal **yet**.

Students who have autonomy, mastery and purpose are more successful in school. Autonomy means students have the opportunity to be self-directed and choose how they will reach their goals. Students know exactly where they are on the learning continuum and what they need to do to get to the next level. Requiring students to show mastery ensures that they always have a solid foundation on which to build upon at the next level. Having mastery prepares students for college, and having a purpose gives students a motivation towards making progress. Personalized learning provides students with autonomy, mastery and purpose. In a personalized learning system, students have a prescribed outcome – success! They clearly understand where they are starting, finishing and how to get there. As students accomplish tasks and show their proficiency in various skills and standards, they know what they need to do next and when they will be finished. Personalized learning and proficiency (or competency as it is sometimes called) based learning encourages students to be self-directed and practice long and short term goals on a continuous basis. Data can also be used to

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personalize instruction, providing additional support as needed and allowing students to move ahead more quickly if they are ready.

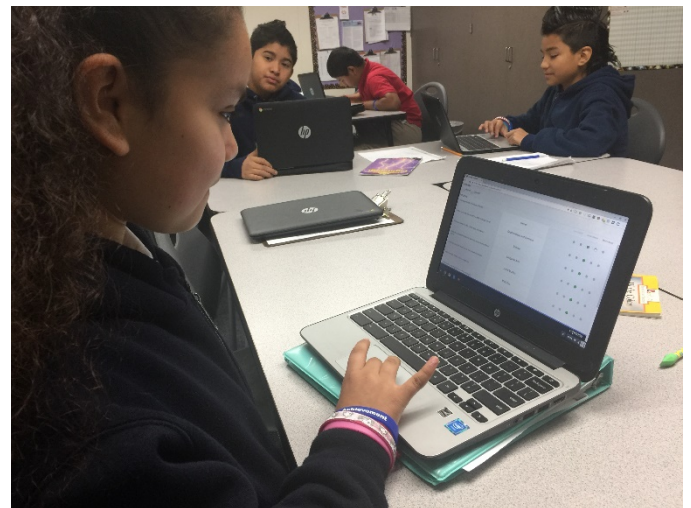
Mrs. Urizar has a good example of how we are already providing students information about where they are and what the goal is. She has all students plot their Lexile levels on a line chart.



Students know exactly where they stand and what the goal is. Some students have surpassed the goal, and that is important to acknowledge as well.

Friday morning, we achieved an important milestone at Carr. Sidney Alvarado was the first student to log in to myON. Sidney is a student in Mr. Eduard and Ms. Miranda's collaboration class. This program is very good at motivating students to read books. Because we are still working out some glitches with our rosters, only a few students knew they had access and yet 11 students read 19 books over the weekend. Israel Camarena, read 7! Mrs. Urizar shared that she has personally witnessed the

power of myON at work. Although her stepson is a non-reader, he was able to use myON to read a book and was excited to share with her his newfound knowledge.



(Sidney Alvarado testing out her myON log-in)

Another school that has developed its own personalized learning system is Summit Public Schools, a charter school organization in Northern California and Washington State. Students have standards for the year laid out and work at their own pace through the assignments and standards. There are projects that students also work on as a class while they work through the independent assignments as they have time. Click [here](#) for more information on their personalized learning program.

What Lindsay and Summit show, though, is that there are many ways to reach the same goal. Carr Intermediate School has the commitment

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to the students and we are already moving in the right direction, thanks to your dedication.

Our Carr Family in Action:



Parents at the LCAP meeting discussing what they would like for their students. Thanks to the many teachers that helped during both meetings! Parents agreed that improving literacy should be the main goal this year. They also appreciated the improved communication between our school and parents. They like that they can go online to see if their students have homework on our school web page (Google Slides). They also like the weekly phone call that goes out about GPA and missing assignments. Thank you Mrs. Tomala!



Thanks to ASB for their support and the PBIS Committee for organizing the Beats raffle! Congratulations to Isaac!



Thanks to the 8th Grade Committee who organized McTeacher night and all of the teachers that supported the effort by volunteering!

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Friday night at Santa Ana College, I attended a Christmas celebration with a group of very dedicated Carr parents who work tirelessly to help promote parent involvement and participation. The celebration included dinner and a tribute to the three pillars that helped create the partnership between UCI, SAUSD, SAC and CSUF, Dr. Francisco Lara, Lilia Tanakeyowma and Sara Lundquist. Dr. Lara passed away earlier this year and Lilia is retiring this year.

Our parents have also bought in to the idea of being life-long learners. Over the last two sessions, we have had more than 250 parents attend the Positive Discipline workshops hosted by presenter Tony Orozco. He congratulated them and told them he has never had so many parents attend his workshops at any school in the past. Go ASTROS!!!

