

Professional Learning Meeting Agenda – 3/9

- MEVA Mission and Vision Review.
- Panorama School Climate Survey Launch – March 16, 2026.
- Progress Monitoring: Panorama School Climate Action Plan.
- Universal Design for Learning (UDL): Rigorous Choice.
- New Technology, Quick Update.
- Other and our next Professional Learning (PL) Meetings is on Monday, March 16th via Zoom at 3:00 pm.

MEVA Mission and Vision

School Mission:

Maine Virtual Academy's (MEVA) mission is to develop **each** student's full potential with **learner-centered instruction**, research-based curriculum and educational tools and resources to provide a **high-quality** learning experience for grade 7-12 students who are in need of **alternative educational options**. **MEVA will develop an Individualized Learning Plan (ILP) with specific learning goals to meet each student's needs.** MEVA's **rigorous** curriculum is **aligned** to the eight Maine content areas, the **Maine Learning Results, the Common Core State Standards and the Next Generation Science Standards.**

School Vision:

MEVA will be a leading 21st century public charter school in Maine and will improve student learning outcomes through **individualized instruction**, as evidenced by **student academic proficiency, student academic growth, post-secondary readiness, and the demonstration of 21st century skills such as critical thinking, problem solving, and self-direction.** MEVA will empower students to acquire the academic and life skills needed to succeed in **post-secondary education and career opportunities.** Our graduates will be **prepared** for college or other postsecondary career training opportunities.

Panorama School Climate Survey Launch

Spring 2026 Participation Goals:

Families – 35%.

Students – 75%.

Faculty – 100%.

Launch date is on or near March 16, 2026.

SY-2025/2026 Panorama Survey Action Plan

- Target **Rigorous Expectations (Students)**: Overall, how high are teachers' expectations of you?
- **Action Plan (Students): Have a healthy competition in class.** From Panorama Playbook "Creating a competition around issues such as homework completion, note-taking, or talking during class is an effective way to motivate students to change behavior for the better. This move works to establish routines and increase engagement in what might otherwise be less-exciting activities."
- Target **School Climate (Teachers)**: On most days how enthusiastic are students about being at school?
- **Action Plan (Teachers): Increase training on how to encourage student engagement in the virtual setting.**
- Target **Feedback and Coaching (Teachers)**: How often do you receive feedback on your teaching? How much feedback do you receive on your teaching? How much do you learn from the teacher evaluation processes at your school?
- **Action Plan (Teachers): Increase teacher/peer observations and feedback through peer observations and presentations at department meetings.**
- Target **Professional Learning (Teachers)**: Through working at your school, how many new strategies for your job have you learned?
- **Action Plan (Teachers): Increase targeted professional learning/training at weekly Professional Learning (PL) Meetings (formerly Process Improvement Meetings).**

Progress Monitoring: School Climate

- Overall, we have consistently progressed with respect to our Panorama School Climate Action Plan.
- We look forward to gathering and reviewing the Spring '26 results, with a view towards continuous school improvement.



You Asked... Let's Solve It!

Today, we'll tackle your UDL questions:



How do I **use one rubric** for different student products?

ef

What does UDL look like in **Brightspace** or self-paced courses?



How can I add UDL without rebuilding my whole course?



How do I maintain rigor while giving choice?

How do I help students access feedback and navigate the course?

Today's Goal:

Leave with one practical strategy you can add to a lesson this week.

UDL: Designing Rigorous Choice

March 9, 2026

Focus: Structured choice that maintains rigor

Outcome: Add ONE standards-aligned flexible pathway to an upcoming lesson

Why This Matters at MEVA

- **Survey Insight:** Managing choice while maintaining rigor was the #1 need
- UDL is structured flexibility - not unlimited choice

Today, we tighten how choice supports learning goals

The UDL Design Equation

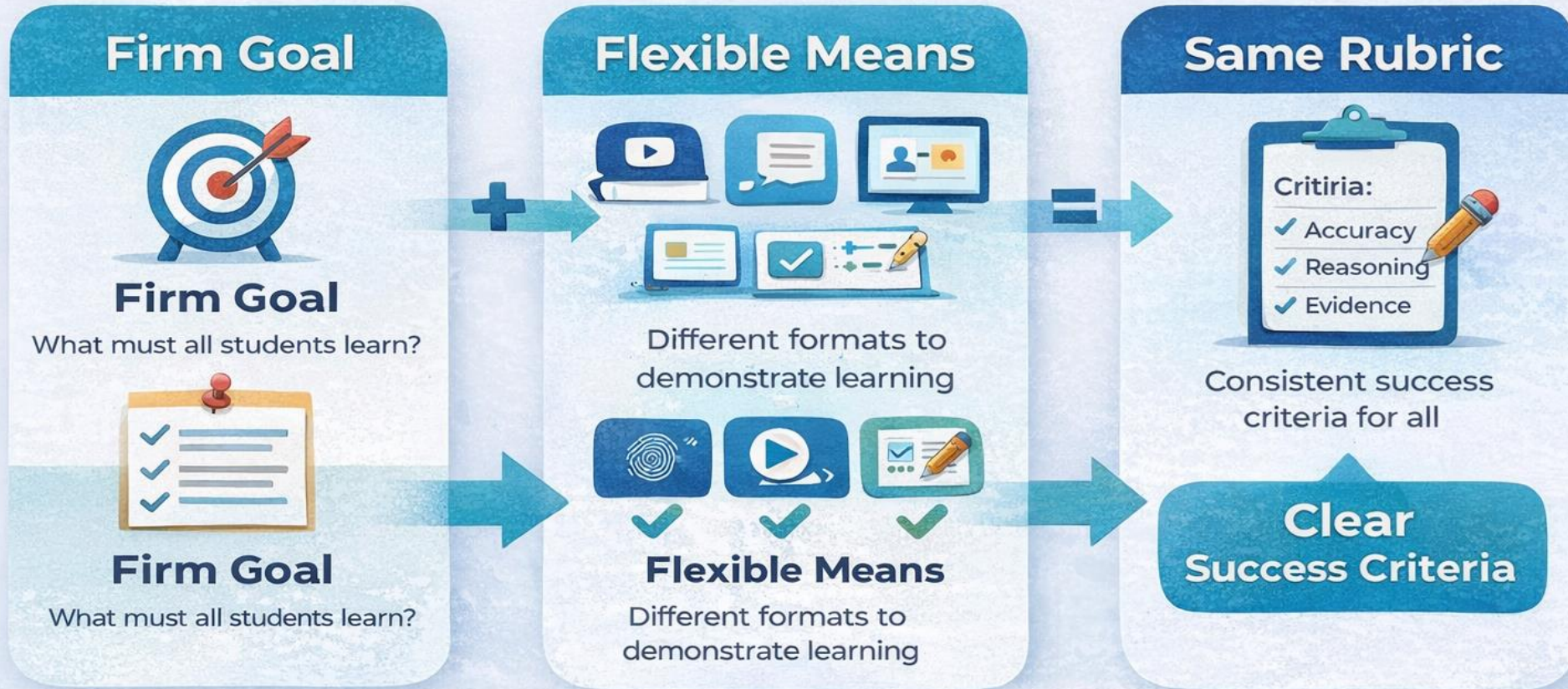
Firm Goal

Flexible Means

Clear Success
Criteria

The UDL Core Design Process

Firm Goal + Flexible Means = Clear Success Criteria



Firm Goals, Flexible Means

At MEVA, rigor stays constant - pathways can vary.

Firm Goals:

- Standards-aligned learning targets remain the same
- Success criteria are consistent for all students

Flexible Means:

- Multiple ways to access content
- Multiple ways to demonstrate mastery
- Strategic supports embedded proactively

UDL Lesson Makeover

Traditional



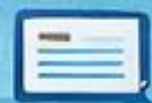
Hard to access &
one way to show learning

VS.

UDL-Aligned Lesson



Access Options



Text article



Worked example

Demonstration



Solve problems independently.



Guided practice



Multiple ways to access
& demonstrate learning

Unlimited vs. Structured Choice

Unlimited choice: Any format, unclear expectations

Structured choice: Same goal, same rubric, different pathways

Guardrail: Rigor stays constant



3 Common UDL Mistakes Teachers Make

Mistake #1

UDL means unlimited choices



Mistake #2

UDL means no barriers at all



Mistake #3

UDL means different student goals



UDL: SAME firm goal, FLEXIBLE pathways, CONSISTENT rubric.

MEVA Example

Learning Target: Solve multi-step linear equations and justify the solution process.

Students may demonstrate learning by:

- Written step-by-step solution with explanation
- Recorded audio/video walkthrough of the solving process
- Annotated digital whiteboard solution

Rigor stays constant. Format is flexible.

One Rubric, Multiple Products

Option	Offer A	Offer B	Offer C	 
Accuracy	Written Explanation	Audio Explanation	Annotated Timeline	Written Response
Reasoning				
Evidence	★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Clarity	★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Same Rubric. Different Formats.

MEVA / Brightspace Example: Structured Choice

For All

Explain the key causes of the Civil War.



Rubric

- ✓ Accuracy
- ✓ Cause Effect Reasoning
- ✓ Supporting Evidence



Demonstration Options:

- ✓ Write a paragraph
- ✓ Record an explanation
- ✓ Worked Example
- ✓ Annotate a timeline
- ✓ Model assemblies

Same Firm Goal + Flexible Means
+ Clear Success Criteria

What Makes Choice Rigorous at MEVA

Strong UDL Choice

- Aligned to the same learning target
- Uses a common rubric
- Requires comparable cognitive demand

Limits options to manageable pathways (2-4)

Watch-fors (common pitfalls)

- Too many choices
- Easier vs. harder options
- Different standards across options
- Vague success criteria

Using the MEVA UDL Template:

- Identify your firm goal
- Add one structured choice
- Keep success criteria constant

Goal: One realistic improvement

Breakout Room Discussion Prompts

Share your lesson idea.

Discuss:

1. What is the **firm goal**?
2. What **one structured choice** did you add?
3. How does the **rubric stay the same**?
4. Does your design **reduce barriers or cognitive load**?

Share & Next Steps

Share:

- Be ready to share one adjustment you made

Next Steps:

- Between now and next session: Implement your revised lesson

Exit Ticket

Please complete the [Week 2 Exit Ticket](#)

1. What **one UDL adjustment** will you implement before the next session?
2. What **barrier might this remove for students?**
3. What support would help you **apply UDL in Brightspace?**

New Technology, Quick Update

- We are rolling out Intelliboard.

Other

- Other topics and/or questions?
- Other and our next Professional Learning (PL) Meeting is on Monday, March 16th via Zoom at 3:00 pm.
- **March 20th is students'/teachers' vacation day**. Please cancel all your live sessions.
- MEVA virtual high school graduation on **Friday, June 5th at 2:00 pm**. MEVA virtual eighth grade recognition ceremony on **Friday, June 12th at 11:00 am**.
- Looking ahead, the Last Day of School is **June 12th**.
- PL Meeting Materials are posted at:
<https://www.mainevirtualacademy.org/essaesserlau-elresources/meva-professional-learning-pl-meeting-materials>
- Thank you for all that you do to support your colleagues, your students, and their families.

SY2025/2026 Updated Assessment Calendar

Assessment Type	Fall Dates	Winter Dates	Spring Dates
NWEA	September 16, 17, 18, 2025 (Makeup Day - September 19, 2025)	January 13, 14, 15, 2026 (Makeup Day - January 16, 2026)	May 5, 6, 7, 2026 (Makeup Day - May 8, 2026)
MEA (ELA & Math)	October 6-17, 2025	NA	April 6-17, 2026
MEA (Science)	NA	NA	April 6-17, 2026 (HS) May 11-22, 2026 (8 th Grade)
ACCUPLACER	September 16, 17, 18, 2025, with makeup days scheduled throughout the year	Ongoing	Ongoing
i-Ready Diagnostic	ALL 7th - 11th-grade students will complete math & Reading. August 25 - September 9, 2025, during Math & English classes, with makeups held during FOX Time and HelpDesk	January 13-15, 2026 (For mid-year enrollees only)	May 26-29, 2026, during Math & English classes, with makeups held during FOX Time and HelpDesk