



What is the Teaching and Learning Model?

Capital School District's Teaching and Learning Model also referred to as the Instructional Model defines a course of action for teachers to meet the academic, social and emotional needs of the whole child. At the center of the model is our Portrait of a Senator. This model has been developed by staff, parents and community members. It identifies the attributes we seek to build into daily teaching and learning of our students. The work that happens every day across our schools and classrooms brings the Teaching and Learning Model to life, every member of our community is welcome to share in our Senator Pride as we fully implement this innovative model. Brief descriptions of each of the components of the model are provided here for your review. We invite you to contact one of our schools to plan a visit to see the Teaching and Learning Model in action.



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Family Guide to Capital School District's Teaching and Learning Model



*Educational Excellence Today
for a Changing Tomorrow*

Delivered in a Safe—Supportive Environment

A positive school climate is directly related to school success. When students, families and staff work together, we can improve attendance, achievement, and retention and even rates of graduation. Our goal is to graduate every student Senator. Our schools have identified the following areas of focus to ensure schools and classrooms are safe and supportive:

- routines, relationships, procedures are evident
- positive culture is established
- behavioral expectations are established, articulated, demonstrated and monitored
- growth mindset in a student centered environment
- creating safe physical environment
- persistence and perseverance (student and teacher)
- reinforcing effort/recognition

Measured through Dynamic Assessment

Dynamic Assessment is the many ways that are used to measure a student's progress in the skills and concepts that are taught. Our teachers use ongoing feedback to guide students toward the standard for learning. We have established cycles of teaching, assessing and supporting the learning of students. Dynamic Assessment may include simple daily checks for understanding, grading student work, observation when completing a task, district unit assessments and annual state assessments. All of the assessments are intended to provide students, families and teachers on the best ways to connect our Senator Learners to the goals and standards that we want them to learn.



Focused on Rigorous Instruction

Senator Learners across our classrooms are challenged to think, perform, and grow to levels that exceed their potential. Teachers select materials and resources to support students in learning the grade and course standards. Students who achieve standards are provided enrichment and extension and those who have not mastered a skill or concept are provided additional supports, time and/or materials to support them in meeting the standards. A rigorous classroom provides just the right balance of engagement, challenge and real-life connections to support achievement at the highest levels.

Built to be Standards Based

Capital follows a standards-based model for classroom instruction and assessment. Standards are statements of what will be learned by students in any given grade or course. Our district standards are based on established national and state standards. Teachers use standards as they plan lessons and measure student achievement. We use standards to determine what students should know and be able to do as a result of the lessons we teach. In classrooms that are standards-based, learning from one grade to another, one course to another, are interconnected and define a Kindergarten through grade 12 Senator Education.

Organized for Personalized Learning

Our instruction is personalized to meet our student's needs. Personalized Learning is about students understanding how they learn best. Teachers provide personalized learning support for students as they set goals for learning, communicate effectively with others and describe their learning progress and next steps. Examples of activities in classrooms that support personalized learning include:

- offering some student choice in how they learn or show what they know
- organizing flexible groups of students to work on a particular skill or concept
- varying tasks based on what a student or group of students need to meet a standard