Piloting the Portrait Case Study

Lahontan Elementary School
Churchill County School District

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Introduction

Lahontan Elementary School (LES) is a grade level school that currently serves approximately 480 Kindergarten and First Grade students having 12 classrooms of each grade. LES has been implementing Modern Teacher strategies over the past four years. Churchill County School District (ChurchillCSD) began with unpacking the standards which led to a scope and sequence allowing grade levels K-12 to develop the Learner-Centered Framework (LCF).

Grade level Professional Learning Communities (PLC) provided time for the newly acquired Implementation Specialists to guide and support the LCF process. The LCF includes Course Summary Documents, Learning Guides,, and Common Assessments. LES's emphasis has been to create Shared Vision, Classroom Code, and Standard Operating Procedures throughout the school.

This year, 90 staff members from ChurchillCSD (15 from LES) attended the Modern Teacher Conference in Colorado Springs to observe and learn more about implementing Modern Teacher Strategies. Teachers who were unable to attend the conference in Colorado Springs, went to observe schools who have implemented Modern Teacher strategies in Douglas County School District.

The focus of our Piloting the Portrait Case Study has been to create and enhance Learner Roadmaps, Proficiency Scales, and Data Notebooks.

ChurchillCSD created the Profile of a Learner poster three years ago and LES felt a more appropriate version was needed for Kindergarten and First Grade students. An updated version with visual representations was created in collaboration with the staff in March 2023. The provided characteristics of a learner are intended to help build student agency to empower students with the skills to collaborate and work with others so all stakeholders have a better understanding of desired learning outcomes.

Intended Impact

- ❖ The intended impact on learners is the engagement of students in their own learning, to include guided structure with self-paced learning.
- ❖ The LES Profile of a Learner Poster will be in all classrooms to support student's understanding of what a learner should be able to do.
- ❖ Students will thrive through challenges as they are allowed to take ownership of their learning.
- ❖ Learner Roadmaps will create student agency empowering students to contribute by acquiring academic knowledge.
- ❖ Proficiency Scales will ensure that all stakeholders are aware of what the expectations are for each focus standard and what a 3, 2, and 1 score entails on our standards based report card.
- ❖ Common learning practices are key to creating cohesive teaching.
- ❖ PLCs will continue to allow teams to review/revise the Learner Roadmaps, Proficiency Scales, and Data Notebooks.
- ❖ Professional Learning will take place as needed directed by the needs of the staff.

Project Work

- ❖ January 21st, first meeting with Portrait Pilot of a Nevada Learner
  - ➢ Worked to complete the provided planning tool: [Dream Protocol](#)
- ❖ Feb 5-8, NCDC Conference in Colorado Springs / Douglas County School District site visits.
  - ➢ Visiting schools at the Colorado NCDC Conference and in Douglas County, allowed LES to observe and incorporate how to more effectively implement Learning Plans, Learner Roadmaps, Standard Operating Procedures, Class Visions, and Data Notebooks into classrooms.
- ❖ February 15th, LES Team meeting work on Dream Protocol
- ❖ March 4th, second meeting with Portrait Team
- ❖ March 16th, LES Team meeting work on Portrait Planning Tool
- ❖ March 31st, Profile of a Learner revised poster completed

- ❖ April 12th, LES Staff meeting to share completed poster and PD on Learner Roadmaps
- ❖ April 19th, PLC Data Notebooks and Learner Roadmaps
- ❖ April 21st, PLC Proficiency Scales and Learner Roadmaps
- ❖ April 26th, PLC Learner Roadmaps continued
- ❖ May 5th, PLC Learner Roadmaps continued
- ❖ May 11th, LES Team meeting work on Portrait Case Study
- ❖ May 17th, LES Team meeting on Portrait Case Study
- ❖ May 20th, LES Team meeting on Portrait Case Study

Next Steps

- ❖ All teachers will implement Data Notebooks and Learner Roadmaps with Proficiency Scales in their classrooms for the 2023-2024 school year.
- ❖ Present Learner Roadmaps to families for the 2023-2024 school year at "Back to School Night."

Lessons Learned

- ❖ Grade level teams are not linear in their development progress with Learner Roadmaps.
- ❖ The resistance to implementation until teachers were able to witness the process live in Colorado and Douglas.
- ❖ PLC time is necessary to continually review and update all artifacts.
- ❖ Creating QR codes will be an ongoing process throughout the new year where lessons can be taught in real time, rather than re-taught to create codes.

Project Artifacts: Case Study Information

- ❖ Profile of a Learner Posters (District and LES)
- ❖ Learner-Centered Framework (LCF)
- ❖ Learning Guides
- ❖ Proficiency Scales
- ❖ Roadmaps
- ❖ Data Notebooks (Focus Standards)
- ❖ QR Codes for Parents