



We encourage you to learn more about student-driven learning by visiting the sites below. Enjoy!

The New York Performance Standards Consortium (NYPSC)

The New York Performance Standards Consortium represents 28 schools across New York State. Formed in 1997, the Consortium opposes high stakes tests arguing, "One size does not fit all." The NYPSC has developed an assessment system that leads to quality teaching, that enhances rather than compromises our students' education.

<http://performanceassessment.org/index.html>

NYPSC: Rubrics

Rubrics provide the basis on which to review the quality of student work across four performance tasks: the analytic essay, research paper, science experiment and applied mathematics.

<http://performanceassessment.org/performance/prubrics.html>

NYPSC: Center for Inquiry

Included are five Exemplar Booklets of Consortium student work. The papers included in these booklets were selected as a result of the Consortium-wide Moderation Study. They represent a demographic sample of the graduation-level work accomplished by students in Consortium schools.

<http://performanceassessment.org/performance/pcenter.html>

Francis W. Parker Charter Essential School: Academic Programs to include Advisory, Gateways, Assessments and Habits of Learning

A six-year public secondary school of choice, the Francis W. Parker Charter Essential School was started in 1995 by area parents and teachers committed to the principles of the Coalition of Essential Schools. Established in 1984 by Theodore R.Sizer at Brown University, the Coalition of Essential Schools is a national network of over 1,200 schools and Centers engaged in restructuring and redesigning schools to promote better student learning and achievement. Essential schools share a common set of ideas known as the Ten Common Principles which call for schools to set clear and simple goals about the intellectual skills and knowledge to be mastered by all the school's students; to lower teacher-student loads, personalize teaching and curriculum, and make student work the center of classroom activity; to award



diplomas based on students' "exhibition" of their mastery of the school's program; to create an atmosphere of trust and respect for the school, faculty, students and parents; and to model democratic practices and honor diversity.

[http://www.theparkerschool.org/pages/Francis_W_Parker_Charter_Esse/About Us/4240708873475805266/About our Academic Program](http://www.theparkerschool.org/pages/Francis_W_Parker_Charter_Esse/About_Us/4240708873475805266/About_our_Academic_Program)

Kearsarge Regional High School: Competencies

In 2005, New Hampshire became the first state to abolish the Carnegie Unit and mandate that by SY '08-'09 all high schools measure credit according to students' mastery of course competencies rather than seat time. The Center for Secondary School Redesign (CSSR) works with a number of New Hampshire schools through the i3 NETWORK to build the pedagogical and leadership capacity to take on this transformational work. Kearsarge Regional High School is one of those i3 NETWORK schools. The road to Competency Education at Kearsarge Regional High School (KRHS) coincided with the adoption of school-wide learning expectations associated with the school's core values and beliefs. Academic Expectations include: effective and clear communication; critical thinking; and information, technology, and media literacy. Social and Civic Expectations include: initiative and productivity; responsibility and accountability; and collaboration. Students are assessed on these expectations through each of their courses but receive a separate grade than that earned through the demonstration of course competencies.

<http://www.competencyworks.org/case-study/competency-education-in-practice-kearsarge-regional-high-school-spotlight/>

Kearsarge Regional High School: Senior Project

Senior Project at Kearsarge Regional High School is a personalized learning experience that allows students to branch out into an area of interest to explore, research, create, and present your findings to the school community. It is a requirement for graduation. The school believes that the ability to function effectively and resourcefully within student surroundings is an important life skill. Active participation in education results in higher quality learning. It develops ownership of learning and provides an opportunity to develop a set of skills to continue learning throughout life. Download the Kearsarge

Newfound Regional High School: School Rubrics

As a result of the school's ongoing accreditation work, Newfound Regional High School has created school-wide Academic Expectation rubrics. These rubrics were first published for use in March 2008.

<http://sites.sau4.org/nrhs/rubrics>



Newfound Regional High School: ELOs

Extended Learning Opportunities (ELOs): ELO's are an opportunity to acquire knowledge, skills and experience outside the traditional classroom while still meeting core competencies. ELO's involve four components: research, reflection, product, and presentation. Students must work with the ELO Coordinator to craft a written Individualized ELO Student Plan (ESP). This plan must articulate how competencies will be reached that meet or exceed the academic standards of a specific course offered by Newfound Regional High School, or for a course that is more advanced or not offered at NRHS. This plan must also identify the team responsible for the ELO, which includes the student, ELO Coordinator and a Highly Qualified Teacher (HQT). Ideally, this team will also involve a community stakeholder or mentor.

<https://sites.google.com/a/sau4.org/nrhs-guidance-dept/alternative-programs/extended-learning-opportunities>

Pittsfield Middle High School: ELOs

Learn more about Students at the Center: ELOs at Pittsfield Middle High School

<http://pittsfield-nh.com/sau/3203/students-at-the-center-elo-at-pmhs> (VIDEO)

Newfound Regional High School: Course Competencies

A course competency is a logically grouped set of knowledge, skills, and behavior that can be measurably demonstrated. Based on content standards, a competency is the means by which a student can demonstrate higher-level thinking around the most relevant and enduring material in a given subject area. Learn more about Newfound's school-wide competencies for both content area and courses. In addition, you will be able to view the school's competency template and validation rubric.

<https://sites.google.com/a/sau4.org/high-school-redesign/home/standards-based-education/competencies>

Noble High School: School-Wide Rubrics



Noble High School's 21st Century Learning Expectations are broken up into three clusters: Academic Expectations, Social Expectations, and Civic Expectations (<http://www.msad60.org/nhs/about-nhs/21st-century-learning-expectations/>) All learning is assessed against a series of school-wide rubrics used to measure student proficiency. Rubrics for writing, research, presentations, critical thinking, technology, design & professionalism, work habits, and collaboration (amongst others) can be found by visiting the link below.

<https://sites.google.com/a/msad60.org/nhs-core-values-beliefs/school-wide-rubrics>

Noble High School: Senior Project & Portfolios

Learn more about Senior Projects and student portfolios at Noble High School

<https://sites.google.com/a/msad60.org/senior-project/>

Plymouth North High School: Rubrics

Learn more about Plymouth North High School's academic expectations rubrics to include communication, writing, reading, critical thinking problem solving and technology.

<http://www.plymouth.k12.ma.us/page.cfm?p=2846>

Plymouth North High School: Senior Projects

The purpose of the Senior Project at Plymouth North High School is to empower all students to explore an area of great personal interest that extends beyond the classroom. Through this project-based learning, students apply knowledge and connect research that culminates with a showcase demonstrating their learning stretch. Learn more about the Plymouth North Senior Project here.

<http://www.plymouth.k12.ma.us/uploaded/schools/PNHS/PNHS Front Office/Files/Grade 12 PNHS Senior Project.pdf>

Plymouth South High School: Authentic Assessment and Learning

Teachers from Plymouth South High School provide sample authentic lesson plans <http://www.plymouth.k12.ma.us/page.cfm?p=3289>. In addition, learn more about the Credit for Life Fair, Plymouth South's authentic learning opportunity for students in personal finance decisions in the REAL WORLD. Students gain a better understanding of credit, budgeting and financial planning. See the video below.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d3nBDgWqHok>



Nashua High School North & Nashua High School South: Competencies

Both Nashua High Schools moved towards competency-based learning in the fall of 2015. The student body formulated a number of questions they had on competency-based learning and how it would benefit all students. The panel of Nashua educators answers student questions in regards to the transformative shift towards competencies.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xOG-b3rRf1g&feature=youtu.be>

Nashua High School South: e-block Schedule

As a direct result from student voice and choice within the Nashua learning environment, Nashua High School South adopted “e-block” as part of the daily schedule. E-block provides additional time during the school day for students to seek support and/or enrichment. Learn more about the benefits of The 35 minute E-Block.

<http://www.nashua.edu/south/academics/e-block>

Mt. Abe Middle High School: Personalized Learning Overview

Personalizing one's own learning is a complex process that asks the learner to not only participate in the learning process but also to plan the learning process they will use. That planning involves posing and developing strong inquiry questions, researching topics of interest in a variety of ways, and creating interesting and engaging forms of evidence of the learning process. Learn more about Mt. Abe Middle High School and their student-driven approach to learning and teaching.

<http://www.mtabevt.org/home/crews-programs/personalized-learning>

Pittsfield Middle High School: Site Council

The Site Council at Pittsfield Middle High School was established in 2010 as part of the school redesign process. It is made up of students, faculty and community members. The role of the Site Council is to provide PMHS with a leadership body to review modify and made decisions regarding areas of high interest to have a positive impact on the educational process and school climate. Learn more about the Site Council to include charter and by-laws.

<http://www.pittsfieldnhschools.org/pmhs/site-council/>



Pittsfield Middle High School: Student-Led Conferences & ELOs

In the fall of 2011 PMHS implemented student-led conferences (SLC) in grades 7-12. During the fall and spring, grade-level advisors facilitate a conference with each of their advisees and parents or guardians. Other relatives, peers, and/or staff members are also invited to attend. The purpose of a student-led conference is for the student to take the lead role in a presentation that articulates his or her academic, personal and social growth. Each student creates a portfolio that contains a collection of work, reflections and evidence of their growth over time to be used as a communication tool regarding their learning. The link below will provide you with student and teacher student-led conferences resources from PMHS.

<http://www.pittsfieldnhschools.org/pmhs/student-led-conference/>

<http://pittsfield-nh.com/sau/2772/premier> (VIDEO)

www.pittsfieldnhschools.org/pmhs/college-career/extended-learning-opportunities-overview-pmhs/

EdWeek Articles: i3 New England Network

New England Project Aims to Use "i3" Aid for Innovative Learning Approaches
July 2011

<http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2011/07/13/36rural.h30.html?qs=joe+dimartino>

N.H. Schools Embrace Competency-Based Learning
February 2012

http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2012/02/08/20proficiency_ep.h31.html?qs=joe+dimartino

High School Redesign Gets Presidential Lift
April 2013

http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2013/04/17/28highschool_ep.h32.html?qs=joe+dimartino