

CONTINUOUS SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

Professional Learning Communities (PLC) provide professional development for classroom teachers to enhance student achievement. PLC meetings are held weekly to develop instructional strategies while incorporating best practices. The SIP is driven by a quest to achieve Meaningful Engaged Learning (MEL).

School Improvement Plan at a Glance

- Meaningful Engaged Learning
- Differentiated Instruction
 - Cooperative Learning Structures
 - Reading/Learning Styles
 - Thinking Maps
 - Higher Order Thinking
 - Technology
- Quality
- Family Friendly Schools

Family Friendly Schools

A program to develop relationships among leadership, staff, and families that creates a culture of high performance through improved parental engagement

- Clear, measurable path to enhance student achievement through family engagement
- Identification of critical obstacles to academic success through faculty and family communication
- Improvement in the academic success of all students
- A strong focus on effective two-way communication between home and school

Whatever it takes!



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 Russ Abshire, Assistant Principal
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PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITIES



Maplewood Middle School

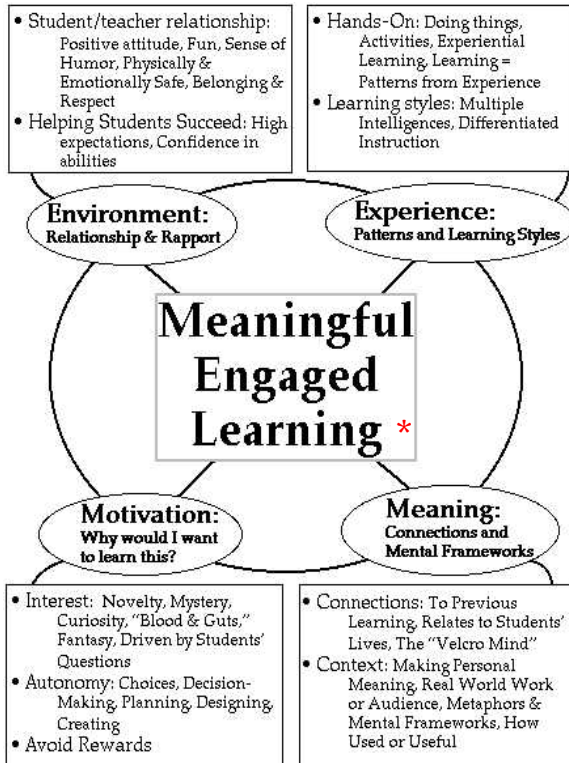
School Improvement at a Glance



"Our mission is to work *together* to provide quality education for *all* our students."

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MEANINGFUL ENGAGED LEARNING



Mike Muir - Winter 2001
<http://www.mcmel.org>

The School Improvement Plan (SIP) is based on the analysis from the independent Louisiana Needs Assessment (LANA) observations. As a result of these findings, Maplewood has incorporated research-based MEL* strategies and structures to improve student achievement.

Differentiated Instruction

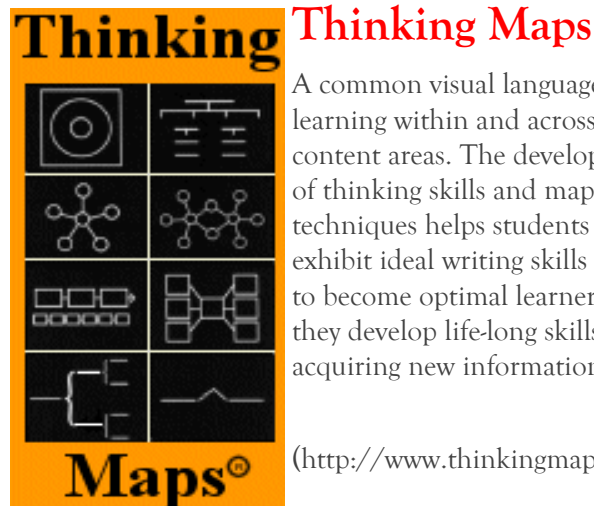
- Teachers address varying learning styles during instruction.
- Students are active learners, decision makers, and problem solvers.
- "Covering information" takes a backseat to making learning relevant to students' lives.
- Students are regularly provided choices with assignments.

Cooperative Learning Structures

Structures that enhance academic achievement and improve student relationships, social skills and ability levels (<http://www.kaganonline.com/>).

Reading/Learning Styles

Determining the way students read and learn most easily and effectively. Students participate in a computer-based RSI survey to access individual learning styles (<http://www.nrsi.com/>).



A common visual language for learning within and across content areas. The development of thinking skills and mapping techniques helps students to exhibit ideal writing skills and to become optimal learners as they develop life-long skills when acquiring new information.

(<http://www.thinkingmaps.com/>)

Higher Order Thinking

Verb Wheel Based on Bloom's Taxonomy

Complex thinking that goes beyond basic recall of facts, such as evaluation and invention, enabling students to retain information and to apply problem-solving solutions to real-world problems.



Technology

Technology and multimedia applications are used as a tool to enhance and enrich students' learning experiences in educational settings and real-world applications.

Quality

Places a strong focus on process measurement as a means of *continuous school improvement* and is a tool for teachers and students to evaluate and improve their learning processes.