



Identify Your Learner-Centered Priorities

Tool for leaders, educators, guiding coalitions

Which elements of learner-centered experiences will you prioritize now? With your community, explore the elements of learner-centered experiences: Personalized, Authentic, Competency-based, and Inclusive & Equitable. The key to managing change is to use what you know about your community and its appetite for change to make decisions about what to do first, next, and later.



Learner-Centered Education means we **define** the desired outcomes, **design** meaningful learning experiences, and **create** the enabling conditions to bring our vision for learners to life. We've identified four elements of learner-centered experiences:



Authentic Meaningful, relevant learning grounded in real-world challenges and applications for authentic audiences.

- Design real-world learning experiences
- Provide opportunities for anytime/anywhere learning
- Create authentic products for authentic audiences



Personalized Co-constructed learning based on each learner's unique strengths, skills, interests, and needs.

- Develop learners' metacognition, self-regulation, and perseverance
- Co-construct the learning experience
- Customize learning opportunities based on each unique learner.



Inclusive and equitable Collaborative and culturally relevant learning communities where every learner feels they belong and can tap into their full academic & social potential, contributing to the collective success of their community.

- Cultivate a sense of belonging
- Nurture a meaningful, engaging learning community
- Partner with learners to reach their full potential



Competency-based An evidence-based instruction, assessment, and feedback cycle that drives learning based on progress toward desired knowledge, skills, and dispositions.

- Harness assessment & data as learning tools
- Use a mastery approach to learning
- Measure mastery through performance-based assessments

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Which elements will you prioritize?

Access tool on next page

Tool: Identify Your Learner-Centered Priorities

Now it's time to find the right scope of your learner-centered implementation. Complete this chart to highlight what you already do, what constraints you have, and what you aspire to do. Let this tool help eliminate the pressure to tackle all of the elements at once. Start where you can, celebrate the small wins, and slowly adopt more elements over time.

Learner-Centered Element	Current Practices	Known Constraints	Aspirations
<p><i>Example</i></p> <p>Competency-based: Learners progress based on demonstration of proficiency, not seat time.</p>	<p><i>Students can take assessments when they are ready rather than on a set day.</i></p> <p><i>Options to remediate and extend embedded in all unit plans.</i></p>	<p><i>We still plan to have grade levels.</i></p> <p><i>Classes will still happen on a semester schedule.</i></p>	<p><i>Have students monitor their own growth/ mastery of learning.</i></p> <p><i>Embed goal setting and reflection more regularly in every class.</i></p>
<p>Personalized: Students make decisions about what, when, where, and/or how they learn and how they will demonstrate what they've learned.</p>			
<p>Personalized: Students receive just-in-time, tailored instruction and/or instructional resources based on their individual needs.</p>			
<p>Personalized: Learners engage in flexible learning pathways and pacing.</p>			

Learner-Centered Element	Current Practices	Known Constraints	Aspirations
<p>Competency-based: Learners progress based on demonstration of proficiency, not seat time.</p>			
<p>Competency-based: Assessment is a positive and engaging learning experience for students that empowers them to turn feedback into action.</p>			
<p>Competency-based: Learner growth is transparently measured through demonstration of learning outcomes—the knowledge, skills, and dispositions learners seek to attain.</p>			
<p>Equitable & Inclusive: Strategies to ensure equity and inclusivity for all learners are embedded in learning experiences and classroom culture.</p>			
<p>Equitable & Inclusive: Learners have a strong sense of belonging at school and feel safe to be their authentic selves.</p>			

Learner-Centered Element	Current Practices	Known Constraints	Aspirations
<p>Authentic: Learners engage in real-world learning experiences, creating authentic products for authentic audiences.</p>			
<p>Authentic: Learning can happen anywhere, anytime. Students receive credit for learning that takes place outside of the school building.</p>			
<p>Authentic: Learners collaboratively engage with peers to solve problems and get/give feedback. Cooperation skills are nurtured.</p>			

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How might we leverage technology to help teachers with more robust feedback?

How can we place more emphasis on equity in our assessment practices?

If we aren't dissolving grade levels, how can we ensure students advance upon proficiency?



NEW INSIGHTS

What new insights do you have now that you've clarified your own definition (for now) of learner-centered? Where do you have room to grow, and where are you already making progress? Are there any elements that you will not prioritize for right now?