

Impact Report 2023



**Mobilizing Toward
Learner-Centered
Education**



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Letter from Executives

— “ —
*Today, we stand
at the
intersection of
ability and
responsibility.*
— ” —

At Learner-Centered Collaborative, we are dedicated to creating education ecosystems that empower learners to know themselves, thrive in community, and actively engage in the world as their best selves. Over the past year, we have achieved significant milestones, ranging from **creating powerful collaborative networks** to embarking on new partnerships and launching innovative research initiatives. These achievements are a testament to the positive impact we can collectively create.

Through our shared efforts and commitment to our vision, we have impacted **students and educators across the country** through the support and resources we co-design with our growing network of partners in their shift toward learner-centered education. We have **elevated student voices** to drive school redesign efforts and innovation across districts. We have fostered discussion and collaboration among educators to observe and create learner-centered experiences. We have **built leadership capacity** at the state and district level to support the shift to learner-centered practices.

Today, we stand at the intersection of ability and responsibility. **We have the power to reimagine, reinvent, and realign our learning ecosystems** to best serve each and every learner. Our duty is to continue this journey and further expand our impact.

As you delve deeper into our impact report, we hope you will find that the key to unlocking the true potential of education lies in creating a shared vision of the education ecosystem—specifically, the outcomes we want for our learners—and **working together to make it happen**. This requires agency that spans from young learners to educators, administrators, and community members. The effects of our collaborative efforts extend across the country—in districts, schools, classrooms, virtual learning environments, communities, conferences, academia, and research—**evolving the landscape of education** and equipping learners with the skills and knowledge they need to thrive in an ever-changing world.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership in this vital mission.

In Collaboration,
Devin + Katie



Devin Vodicka | CEO



Katie Martin | CIO



WHO WE ARE

Our Vision

We envision education ecosystems where all learners know who they are, thrive in community, and actively engage in the world as their best selves.

Our Mission

We partner with educators to define whole-learner outcomes, design meaningful learning experiences, and create the enabling conditions for learner-centered education.

Our Values

We are trusted and responsible partners.

We are curious and humble learners.

We are courageous.

We are inclusive community builders.

We are impact-driven.



Our Story

Our team has decades of expertise in education from a variety of sectors including technology, policy, administration, and teaching. From these diverse experiences emerged a shared understanding: **to truly develop and grow unique individuals we cannot teach in a standardized way.** We are thus guided by the persistent truth that a learner-centered approach is the foundation for a successful, thriving learning community.

Learner-Centered Collaborative builds and expands upon the work our team has been doing for years with partner schools across the country. Recognizing the complexity of change, driven by what's best for learners, and informed by research and practice, we work closely with schools, districts, and states to **find their new way forward.** Our framework serves as a blueprint for our partners as they build out their unique models.

Our Learner-Centered Framework



[Explore Framework](#)

Whole-Learner Outcomes

The system is centered on attending to the social, emotional, cognitive, and mental health needs of learners.

Learning Experiences

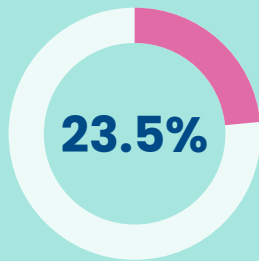
The experiences that are co-designed and facilitated with learners to ensure they can demonstrate mastery of desired learner outcomes.

Enabling Conditions

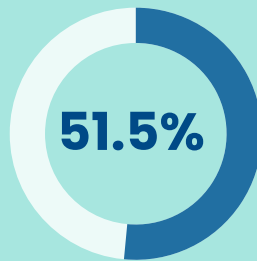
The conditions that are critical to support the learning experiences that lead to desired learner-centered outcomes.

Our Impact

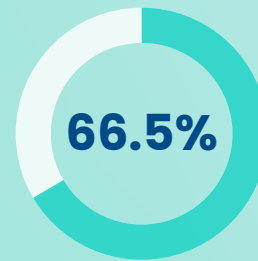
Our partnerships help build inclusive and equitable communities. In our partner schools:



of all students are
**English-Language
Learners**



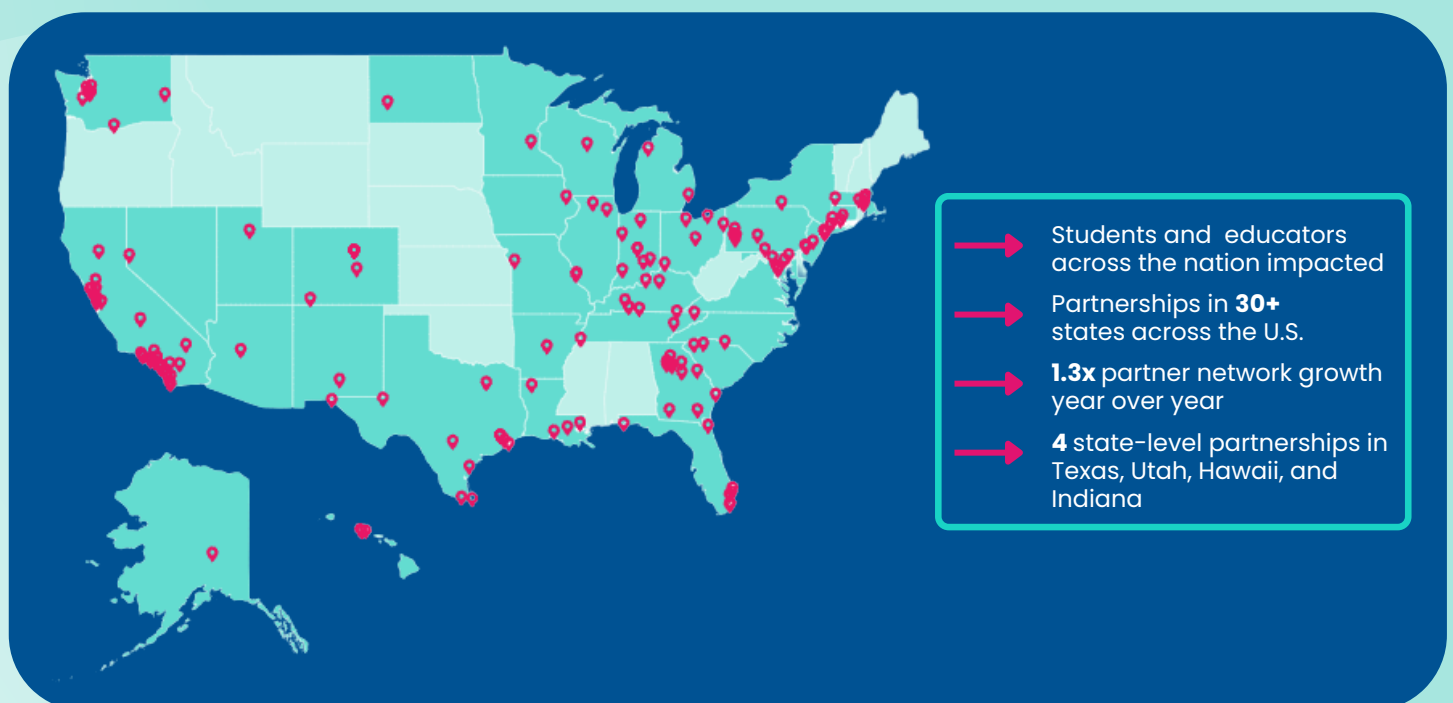
of all students
receive **Free &
Reduced Lunch**



of all students are
Students of Color

Our Partners

Our diverse and growing community of partners spans public, private, charter, urban, and suburban schools, districts, and states across the nation



What Our Partners Are Saying

Catalyst for Transformation

"Learner-Centered Collaborative has been instrumental in the transformative journey that we are on. We've taken a multi-pronged approach to the work, with Learner-Centered Collaborative serving as thought partners for district leadership."

"As a partner with LCC, we have been able to establish systems for reaching a broad audience in our district to reimagine learning for our students. Putting the learner at the center has been enculturated in every aspect of the development of our vision and learner profile."

Reimagines Student Learning

Puts Learners at the Center

"Partnering and working with LCC has brought the focus back to student learning and the involvement of students throughout this journey has made the work meaningful. This is not another initiative from administration, but a defined plan of action that the students want from their learning experience."

Innovation Cohorts in Pennsylvania

Building Communities of Practice

At a Glance

LCC launched two innovation cohorts in Pennsylvania: The Western PA Innovation Cohort and the Pittsburgh Innovation Cohort. These distinct, yet aligned cohorts collaborate to bring learner-centered practices to Pennsylvania.

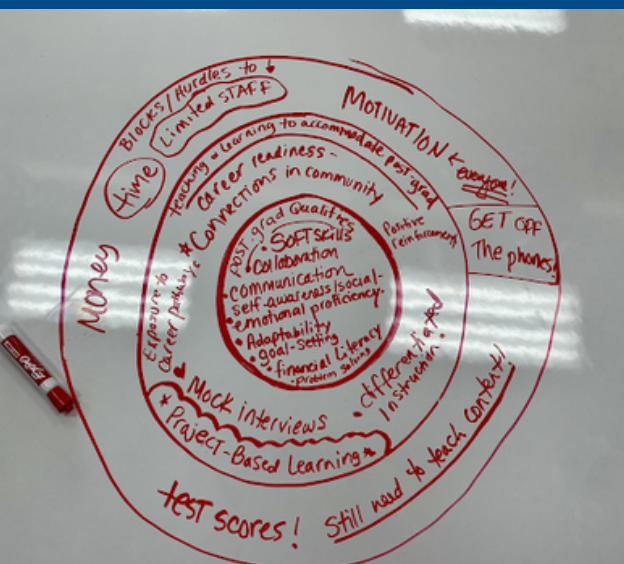
Find inspiration in their work through these resources:



Self-Paced Courses



Community of Practice



An exercise for cohort members to find alignment with one another

OUR GOAL

Our Western PA Innovative Cohort – Hampton Township, Shaler Area, Deer Lakes, and Avonworth School Districts– aims to deepen learner-centered practices in Western PA. The Pittsburgh Innovation Cohort – South Allegheny and Duquesne School Districts – aims to foster learner-centered education and innovation. The primary goal of these innovation cohorts is to empower educators, foster collaboration, and promote self-directed learning for learner-centered education

OUR APPROACH

1

Virtual Meet Ups

Virtual meet-ups with their **communities of practice** will allow participants to connect, share experiences, and discuss progress & best practices.

2

In-Person Collaboration

In person, they engage in learning walks and have dedicated time for educators to share, celebrate, collaborate, and plan together.

3

Personalized Online Courses

Educators will take three self-paced courses, providing them opportunities to deepen their understanding of learner-centered practices and refine their skills.



I have been challenged to think about ways in which I can provide my students with opportunities to have their voices be heard in a learning environment.

Cohort member
PA Innovation Cohort



RESULTS AND IMPACT

> Western PA Innovative Cohort

- Enhanced educator confidence and readiness for embracing innovation.
- Positive atmosphere with a commitment to learner-centered practices.
- A promising beginning toward a future where learner-centered education is central to the educational landscape.

> Pittsburgh Innovation Cohort

- Strong buy-in and engagement levels among participants.
- Participants value the opportunity to collaborate across districts, fostering a sense of community and shared ownership in the pursuit of learner-centered education.

Stacy Coons
scoons@deerlakes.net
Pre-AP English 10

I should provide more voice and choice in higher level classes. After students completed paragraph writings, I asked students to write their writing strengths and weaknesses on post-its. After reading their suggestions, I created a writing choice board so we work together on deciding the aspects of their writing on which to focus in order to benefit them the most.

Provide Voice & Choice: I design learning experiences that offer flexibility in process, product and/or pace.

Design With, Not For: I co-design learning experiences and/or assessments that leverage learner's interests and strengths.

I strategically placed all choices on the tic-tac-toe board based on OUR collective thoughts about strengths and weaknesses. I hope to see less physical writing anxiety as they write their first essay, and I hope to engage more with them as they work in a workshop format.

Learner-Centered COLLABORATIVE

An example of the portfolios being developed by each cohort as evidence of the strategies tested so far

Hawai'i State Public Charter School Commission

Measuring What Matters

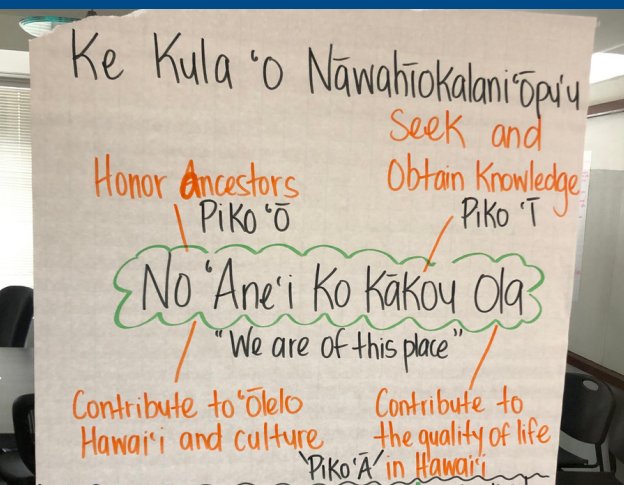
At a Glance

The Hawai'i State Public Charter School Commission and LCC partnership centers around the philosophy of "Measure What Matters." Hawai'i Charter Schools has established a scorecard system and cultivated a culture of trust and shared ownership. The successes achieved through the initial phase of the partnership have set the stage for continued growth and progress.

Find inspiration in their work through this resource:



[Scorecards: On the Blog](#)



Scorecard development

OUR GOAL

The goal of this partnership is to embrace the ethos of "Measure What Matters." This overarching mission encompasses establishing a robust scorecard system, identifying key success metrics aligned with their mission & vision, building trust and fostering shared ownership, shifting leadership metrics for success, and celebrating achievements while strengthening relationships. Hawai'i State Public Charter School Commission is building a community deeply invested in evidence-informed success.

OUR APPROACH

1

Scorecard Institute

We commence with a Scorecard Institute, creating 15 scorecards and collecting mission-aligned data for each of the charter schools.

2

Empowerment & Confidence

Our focus is on fostering a positive experience, instilling confidence, and promoting a culture of accountability and data-informed decision-making.

3

Community Building

At monthly Communities of Practice (CoP), key resources are developed, relationships are strengthened, and shared ownership is encouraged.

4

Data & Evidence

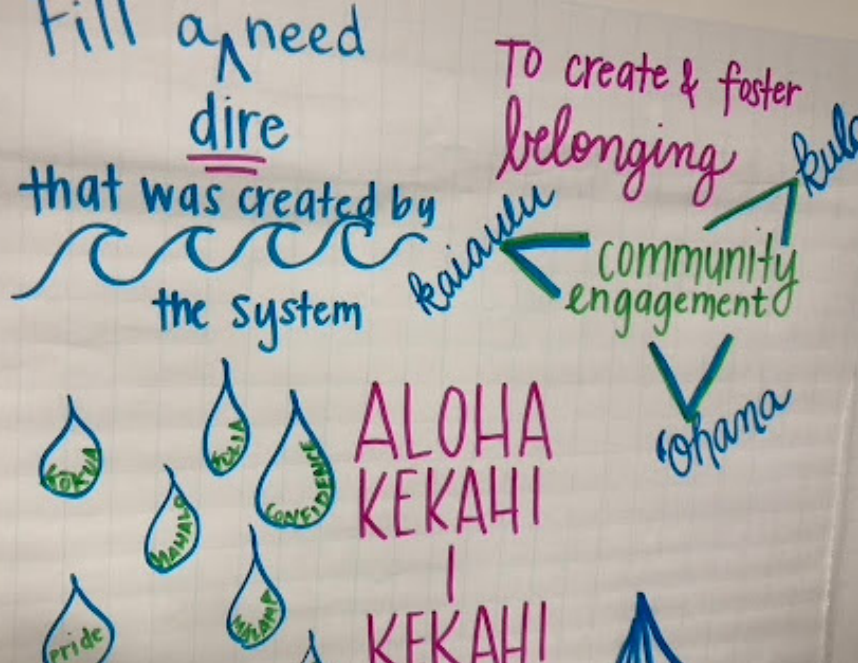
Next steps involve shifting leadership metrics and convening for data review, relationship strengthening, and success alignment.



Our journey with Learner-Centered Collaborative has been transformative, laying the foundation for data-informed excellence in Hawai'i Charter Schools. Through the power of 'Measure What Matters,' we're not just measuring success; we're fostering a community committed to achieving it.

Kim Le Bas

Federal Programs Manager



RESULTS AND IMPACT

> Draft Scorecards:

All 15 schools now possess a draft scorecard, a tangible result of the Scorecard Institute.

> Building Trust:

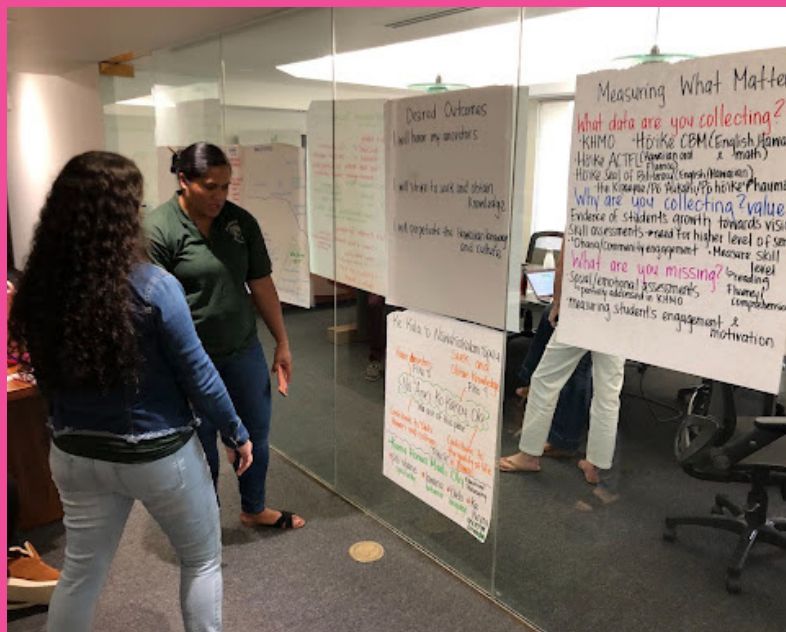
The sense of trust and community is effectively nurtured.

> Informed Decision-Making:

Leadership teams are empowered to make informed decisions based on multiple sources of data.

> Positive Survey Scores:

High survey scores reaffirm the value and effectiveness of the program.



Identifying strengths and possible Scorecard metrics with Hawaii Public Charter School Commission.



State Public Charter School Commission
'Aha Kula Ho'āmana

To learn more, visit:

<https://www.chartercommission.hawaii.gov/>

Escondido Union School District Elevating Student Voice

At a Glance

Through a partnership with Learner-Centered Collaborative, Escondido Union School District elevated student voices to incorporate feedback and insight into learner-centered innovation throughout the district.

Find inspiration in their work through these resources:



["Continue-Start-Stop" Tool](#)



[EUSD Website](#)



Bright Spots during school visits

OUR GOAL

Escondido Union School District partnered with Learner-Centered Collaborative to move from aspiration to action with learner-centered instructional practices. In order to create these changes in practice surrounding instruction, processes, and structures, EUSD recognized that their work must first start with an aligned vision grounded in authentic experience and clear steps that would transform their aspirations into action.

OUR APPROACH

1

Student Forums

To orient EUSD's vision and create focus areas for district transformation, EUSD hosted 9 student forums using the ["Continue-Start-Stop" protocol](#), gathering data on the learning experiences students value and the skills they need to succeed.

2

Design Team

Following a student feedback assessment, EUSD organized Design Team sessions involving over 65 administrators, staff, principals, educators, parents, & other community stakeholders to establish a learner profile & learning pathways.

3

Scout Team

EUSD's Scout Team, comprising 25 members from the Escondido community, prioritized learning from other district schools. Three visits inspired a collective vision for reimagining EUSD, emphasizing that redesign is achievable with clarity, alignment, and district support.



We are working towards transforming our system to provide meaningful authentic learning experiences that are truly for, about, and in the service of our students.

Laura Philyaw

Deputy Superintendent
Escondido Union School District



RESULTS AND IMPACT

➤ Developed the EUSD Learning Model:

The learning model defines the learning experiences that will support learners in achieving the desired outcomes.

➤ Designed the EUSD Learner Profile:

The learner profile supports learner-centered shifts to set systems up such that ALL students can reach their full potential.

➤ Created the EUSD Blueprint:

The EUSD team created a Blueprint on how to connect aspirations with the framework and identify the shifts needed to achieve their vision. They created the 5 Big Moves to align with the Framework for the Future: School Redesign, Learning Model Implementation, Maximized Educator Collaboration Time, Authentic Learning Experiences, and Preparing Learners.



Devin Vodicka and the EUSD team imagining what is possible and highlighting the enabling conditions that were in place during school visits



To learn more, visit:
<https://www.eusd.org/>

Encinitas Union School District

Casting a Vision for Learners

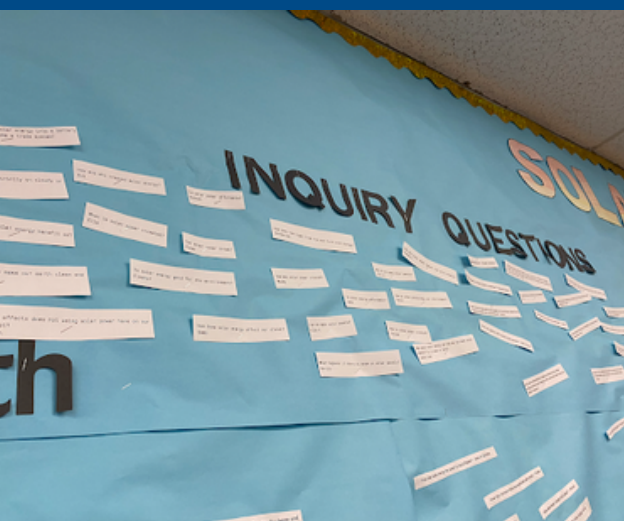
At a Glance

Encinitas Union School District is casting a new vision learners, redefining its Mission, Vision, and Values, and creating a Blueprint to chart a path toward learner success, organizational coherence, and community engagement.

Find inspiration in their work through this resource:



[Encinitas Framework for the Future](#)



Wonder Wall at Encinitas Union School District

OUR GOAL

Encinitas Union School District partnered with LCC to advance their educational system. Their mission is to implement learner-centered practices aligned with their Mission, Vision, and Values to meet the diverse needs of all students. This commitment is firmly rooted in their pursuit of organizational coherence and an education system that adapts to the dynamic world we live in. The ultimate aspiration is to cultivate engaged and productive citizens by nurturing holistic student success.

OUR APPROACH

1

Listening to Learners

To better understand the learner experience, EUSD held student focus groups, engaged upper grade students in discussions, and actively invited diverse perspectives.

2

Backward Design

In developing its Blueprint for Success, Encinitas is aligning goals, strategies, and actions to the Framework for the Future to promote learner success.

3

Collective Efficacy

Encinitas is working to build collective efficacy within its community to ensure shared ownership of the framework and its success.

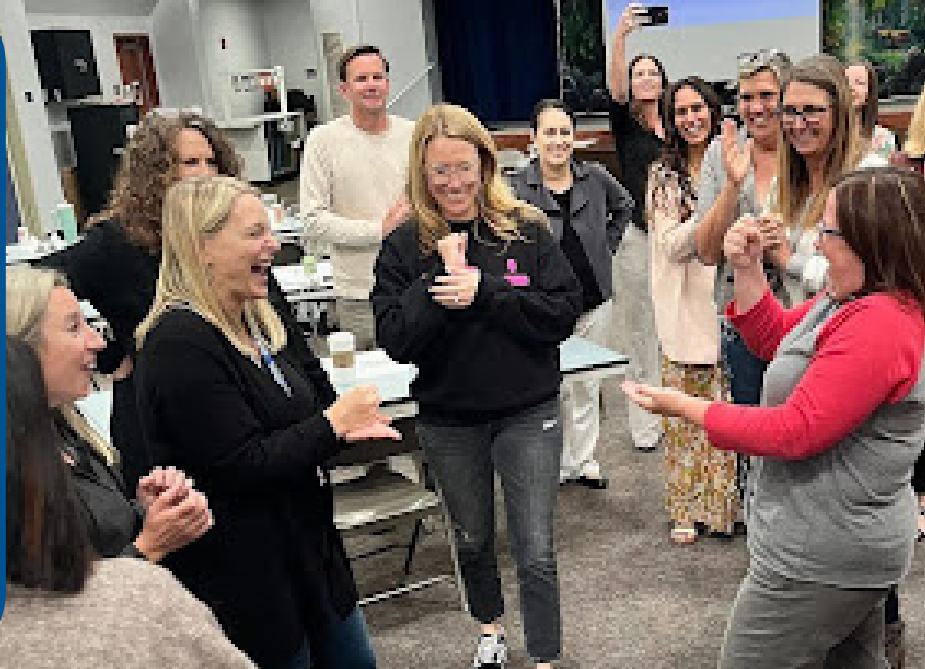


Putting the learner at the center has been enculturated in every aspect of the development of our vision and learner profile with Learner-Centered Collaborative.

Andrée Grey, Ed.D.,

Superintendent

Encinitas Union School District



RESULTS AND IMPACT

➤ **Defined Whole Learner Outcomes:**

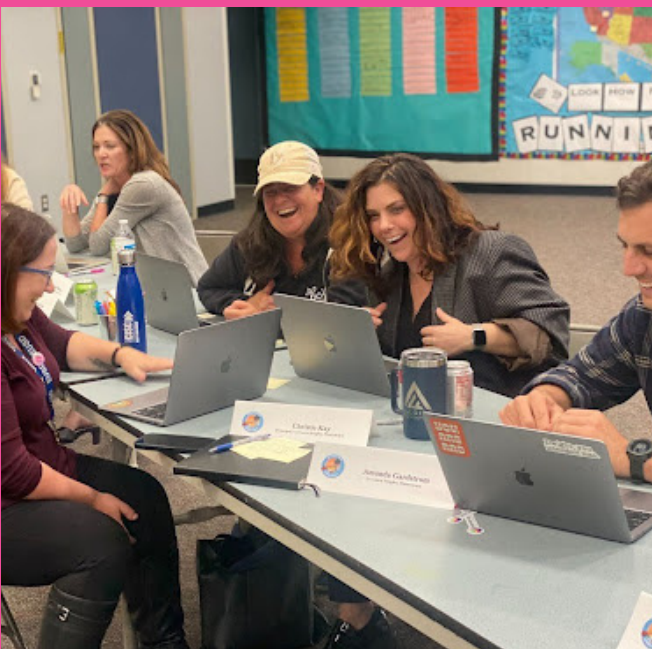
In the creation of the EUSD Framework for the Future, Encinitas defined a comprehensive set of Whole Learner Outcomes to clearly define learner success. They also created a learning model that guides educators to craft authentic and engaging learning experiences.

➤ **Mission, Vision, and Values**

Refresh: Encinitas revised and refreshed their Mission, Vision, and Values to increase organizational coherence and prepare learners to become engaged and productive citizens.

➤ **Blueprint for Success Development:**

The district developed a 3–5 year Blueprint for Success, which involves defining broader measures of student success. In this process, Encinitas is setting goals, strategies, and actions that align with the Framework for the Future to ensure that initiatives are oriented toward learner success.



The Encinitas Guiding Coalition engaged in a refresh of the mission and vision, and values

Encinitas
UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

To learn more, visit:
<https://www.eusd.net/>

Research & Development

Success hinges on using research and learning sciences as our guide and sharing ideas, resources, and best practices, all while elevating student voice to inform the path forward.

2023 Highlights

Competency-Based Reporting

Supported by new grant funding from the Walton Family Foundation we will create and distribute a resource guide of competency-based reporting that promotes personalized, authentic, and equitable learning experiences.

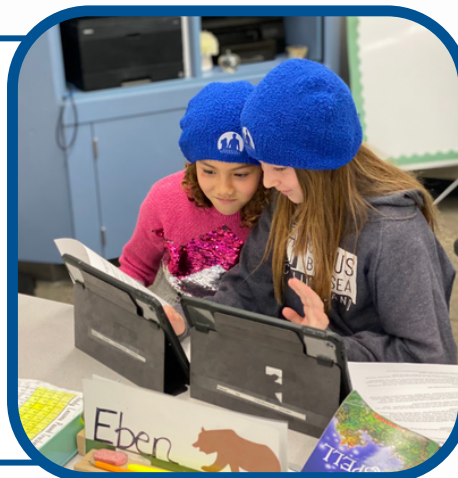


UCSD Research Partnership

This year, we launched a groundbreaking research collaboration with the University of California San Diego focused on advancing learner-centered education through innovative projects in areas like personalized learning, competency-based assessment, and effective teaching strategies.

Learner-Centered Strategies

This year, we introduced Learner-Centered Strategies, which are actionable steps educators can take to create personalized, competency-based, authentic, inclusive and equitable learning environments.



What's Resonating with the Learner-Centered Community

Ensuring broad awareness and access to resources in a variety of formats facilitates and accelerates learner-centered education for all.



Top 5 Tools:

- [Authentic Learning Strategies](#)
- [Competency-Based Learning Strategies](#)
- [10 Questions to Ask Students](#)
- [Learning Walk "Look Fors"](#)
- [Identify Your Learner-Centered Priorities](#)

Top 5 Blogs:

- [The What, Why, and How of Learning Walks](#)
- [Learning Is a Process, Not an Event](#)
- [Scorecards: How Might We Measure What Matters In Schools?](#)
- [Changing how students learn, starts with changing how educators learn](#)
- [The 4 Elements of a Learner-Centered Experience](#)



The Learner-Centered Collaborative Podcast



Top 3 Podcast Episodes:

- [Episode 15:](#) Middle School Philosophy that Apply to All Levels of Education with Tom Burton
- [Episode 14:](#) Assessment Practices that Empower Learners with Tom Schimmer
- [Episode 19:](#) Empowering Young People to Thrive in All Areas of Life with Kirsten Jones

Convenings &

Impactful change occurs when leaders, innovators, and practitioners from diverse practices come together. Our regional and national convenings provide opportunities for these individuals, each



Connected with the Learner-Centered Community and made a significant impact at large-scale education convenings.

DA Superintendent Summit, ASU+GSV, ISTE, Carnegie Summit & AASA National Conference



Convened with partners and educators across the nation as we worked to **bring their vision for learners to life.**

Hosted quarterly **webinars to promote and explore** learner-centered professional learning practices.



Innovation Hubs

with their unique roles and contexts, to collaborate, share, and spread ideas. This fosters a strong connection that accelerates learner-centered growth both nationwide and beyond.

Showcased the innovative initiatives and practices implemented by our partners in our first **Learner-Centered Leadership Forum**



Brought together our first **Connections Cohort** in San Diego for school and industry visits



Gathered district leaders, educators & researchers in San Diego to initiate our **LCC + UCSD research partnership.**

Professional Learning

Changing how students learn starts with
changing how educators learn.

*At Learner-Centered Collaborative, we
believe professional learning for
educators and leaders needs to be
**authentic, personalized, competency-
based, inclusive and equitable.***

**We've expanded our offerings
to include:**

Self-Paced
Online
Courses

Learner-
Centered
Connections

Innovation
Cohorts

Framework
for the
Future +
Blueprint

Learner-
Centered
Webinar
Series

Leadership
Forums

Highlights This Year

In the spotlight this year: Achieving unprecedented strides in learner engagement, fostering dynamic community building, and advancing our mission to redefine education as a truly learner-centered experience.



Online Courses

We developed a series of online asynchronous courses for K-12 educators and leaders that support the shift towards a learner-centered paradigm. Courses allow self-paced and personalized learning through modules that connect new concepts to current practices driven by self-assessment, reflection, and goal-setting.

Connections

This year, we launched Learner-Centered Connections, a program that fosters connections and shared learning among education leaders through network principles of small group interaction, trust-building, and co-constructing the experience.



**//IF YOU HAD A
MAGIC WAND,
WHAT CHANGE
WOULD YOU
UNLOCK USING AI
IN EDUCATION?//**

Learner-Centered AI Webinar

In this webinar with Los Angeles USD and LCC, we discussed how AI can provide educators and education leaders with the precious gift of time – time to focus on the things that truly matter: human connection, personalized learning, and fostering a learner-centered environment.

Board of Directors

Learner-centered change impacts all aspects of a community and requires diversity of perspective and voice.



Dr. Devin Vodicka
CEO
Learner-Centered
Collaborative



Dr. Frankie Escobedo
Executive Director
National Center of Urban
Transformation



Kimberly Smith
CEO
Center for Inclusive
Innovation at
Digital Promise



Joseph South
Chief Learning Officer
ISTE



Eve Wachtell
Managing Partner & COO
Outside Angle



Kelly Young
Executive Director & President
Education Reimagined

Advisory Council

Our Board of Directors and Advisory Council bring guidance and first-hand knowledge of what it takes to realize a learner-centered paradigm where all learners can thrive.



Melissa Agudelo
Principal
Lincoln High School
San Diego Unified



Nicole Allard
Founder
Leading for
Transformation



Jerry Almendarez
Superintendent
Santa Ana Unified
School District



**Dr. Leighangela
Brady**
Superintendent
National School
District



Eric Burmeister
*Founder & Principal,
Solutionary Advisors*
Former
Superintendent, Menlo
Park City School
District (CA)



Eric Chagala
Founding Principal
Vista Innovation &
Design Academy



David Cook
*Director of Innovative
Learning*
Kentucky Department
of Education



George Couros
*Educator, Author,
Speaker*
GSE at University of
Pennsylvania



Denise Espania
School Director
Mālama Honua
Charter School



Joe Erpelding
*R. Roger Rowe School
Principal*
Former Principal,
Design39 Campus



Lori Gonzalez
Superintendent
Lamont Elementary
School District



**Scott McLeod, J.D.,
Ph.D.**
Founding Director
UCEA Center for the
Advanced Study of
Technology
Leadership in
Education (CASTLE)



Dr. Pamela Moran
Executive Director
Virginia School
Consortium for
Learning



Contessa Orr
Superintendent
Muhlenberg County
Schools



Dr. Cory Steiner
Superintendent
Northern Cass
School District (ND)



Kristen Watkins
*Executive Director of
Personalized Learning
& Innovation
Sustainability*
Dallas ISD

Acknowledgments

As we reflect on the past year and release our 2023 Impact Report, Learner-Centered Collaborative is filled with gratitude for the community that empowers our mission.

We are tremendously appreciative of our dedicated staff, board and advisory council. Their passion and insights propel our work forward. We also thank our loyal partners – the schools, districts, and educators who engage with us. Witnessing the strides in learner outcomes further fuels our drive to create more equitable, empowering, and learner-centered experiences for all.

We are proud to be part of a growing movement toward putting learners at the center. While there is still work to be done, the energy and dedication of educators, leaders, communities and students nationwide inspires us.

We invite you to join the movement of educators, leaders, changemakers, parents, and learners to support changing practices and the approach to learning. Take action by exploring our new resources, attending an upcoming event, connecting with our team, or donating to drive change. With your partnership, we can reimagine education and build a learner-centered future.

Thank you for your role in this community and your commitment to learner-centered education. We look forward to our continued collaboration.

Contact Us

www.learnercentered.org/connect
collaborate@learnercentered.org
@LCCollaborative

Thank You

*Together let's make your **vision** for learners a **reality***



www.learnercentered.org



Connect with Us At
www.learnercentered.org/connect