

Chappaqua Central School District Moving Toward Active Learning Environments Our History and Path



Active Learning Environments: Why?

We want our students to be:

- Curious
- Creative
- Innovative
- Collaborative
- Setting goals and monitoring their own learning

We want staff to have opportunities to think creatively and critically as they engage in meaningful, evidence-based conversations about student learning.

How do we move beyond a focus on standardized test scores to more active learning?

Over the past 10 years...

- Surveys
- Professional Development
- Experts
- Learning walks
- Classroom talk
- BOE Strategic Question (2006)

First Board of Education

Teaching and Learning Question (2006)

"How can the District ensure that all students, in addition to acquiring necessary content knowledge, think deeply, support their thinking, apply problem-solving skills, and actively participate in their learning?"

Increased focus on Board of Education *Teaching and Learning* Strategic Question

- In Service courses
- Teacher Action Research Program
- Annual Learning Symposium
- Presentations at BOE meetings
- Department Chair retreats

- Summer curriculum work projects
- Literacy work, K-12
- HGHS schedule change
- Parent workshops
- Classroom Clips
- Chappaqua School Foundation grant proposals

Adoption of current version of BOE Strategic Question (2009)

"How can the District ensure that all students think deeply, support their thinking, apply problem-solving skills, and actively participate in their learning as they acquire content knowledge?"

- Professional Development Advisory Committee (APPR)
- Blended online course
- Partnerships
 - ~ Chris Dede
 - ~ Sam Wang
 - ~ Yong Zhao
- Tri State Consortium visit (2011)

Recently...

- Chappaqua Thinking Standards
- Assessment Development Project
- Middle school schedule change
- Innovation Fellows

- Development of iLab and District-wide examination of time, space, and technology
- Elementary school schedule change

2014-2015 Vision and Goals

- Active Student Learning
 - Feedback
 - Language
 - Small group instruction
 - Space and technology
 - Student work
- Strong Student Collaboration



**Chappaqua Central School District
2014-2015
Teaching and Learning
Vision and Goals**



**From Best Practice to Next Practice ¹
Let's Work Together**

Board of Education Strategic Question

How can the District ensure that all students think deeply, support their thinking, apply problem-solving skills, and actively participate in their learning as they acquire content knowledge?

VISION: Active student learning

We want students engaged in experiences that involve meaningful inquiry, action, imagination, invention, interaction, hypothesizing, and personal reflection. ²

How do we create learning environments in which learners are solving relevant, complex problems both individually and collaboratively by using varied approaches, are providing accurate feedback to each other, and are setting their own learning goals?

GOALS: Instruction that includes

- Regular feedback to students that allows for revision, produces learning, and relates to learning targets.
- Language that promotes students' sense of self and well-being.
- Small group instruction based on ongoing assessment.
- Use of time, configuration of space, and technology that provide opportunities for student collaboration, creativity and innovation.
- Analysis of student work to inform instruction.