Senior Seminar and Capstone

Career and Education Development

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Quick Story

A response to prepare students to become college and post-secondary life ready

A response to Standard-Based Learning

A response to Student-Centered Education

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College Ready

Increase to:
4 years of Math
4 years of Science
2 years of World Languages
1 year of Senior Seminar and Capstone

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Standard-Based Learning

From a Traditional High School

To Standard Reference

To → Standard-Based and Student Centered Learning

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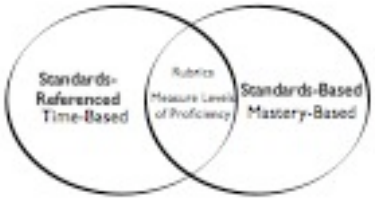
Standards-Reference vs. Standards-Based



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From Standards Referenced Curriculum to Measurement Topics & Learning Targets

Foundational Principles for Learning:

Students learn in different ways

Students learn in different time frames

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What Are Measurement Topics (MTs)and Learning Targets?

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Student-Centered Learning

What does the classroom look like and feel like?

Teacher-Centered	Learner-Centered
Focus is on teacher	Focus is on both learners and instructor
Teacher talks; learners listen	Teacher models; learners interact with teacher and one another
Learners work alone	Learners work in pairs, in groups, or alone depending on the purpose of the activity
Teacher monitors and corrects every learner utterance	Learners talk without constant teacher monitoring; teacher provides feedback/correction when questions arise
Teacher answers learners' questions about language	Learners answer each other's questions, using teacher as an informational resource
Teacher chooses topics	Learners have some choice of topics
Teacher evaluates learning	Children evaluate their own learning; teacher also evaluates
Classroom is quiet	Classroom is often noisy and busy

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What has changed?

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From Bloom's Taxonomy to The New Taxonomy

(Marzano and Kendall, 2007)

Bloom's	Marzano's
- Knowledge	- Retrieval
- Comprehension	- Comprehension
- Application	- Analysis Knowledge/
- Analysis	- Utilization
- Synthesis	- Metacognition
- Evaluation	- Self-System Thinking

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From Standards-Referenced Curriculum to Measurement Topics & Learning Targets

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Different Levels in One Class. Example from a Math Class

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Different Levels, Measurement Topics, and Learning Targets in One Class: Example for a Math Class

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Senior Seminar and Capstone

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What Is Senior Seminar ?

Exposes, instructs, guides, and helps students with:

- Career Decision Making
- The process of Job and College Application,
- Financial Aid Literacy

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How Does Senior Seminar Work?

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Career and education Development: Senior Seminar

Strand: Marketing Self

Measurement Topic:

Business Communication

Learning Targets:

Listening and Speaking

"1. Understands the importance of interacting by listening and speaking to communicate **information about self**, by observing the elements of verbal and non-verbal communication. (Interview)"

Business Writing

"2. Understands how to write various forms of informative text to convey **information about self**, through the selection, organization and analysis of its content. (Resume, Cover letter, College Application Essay)"

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Assessments from Learning Targets:

Public Speaking - Organization of content
Presentation - Delivery (Use of formal English and other tools
- Use of Digital Media
- Use of non-verbal communication

Business Writing - Resume
- Cover letter
- College Application Essay

Listening and Speaking: - The Interview

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Senior Seminar Final Products

- Resume
- Cover Letter
- College Application Essay
- Interview
- College or job application
- Financial Aid Literacy
- Career and Education Research and Post-secondary plan

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What is Capstone?

Capstone Is:

Capstone Is Not...

Community service; however, it fosters community involvement.

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Some Testimonials

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How does Capstone Work?

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Capstone Standards, MTs, and LTs

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Capstone Final Products

- Presentation
- Research Paper on Topic
- Fieldwork
- Portfolio
- Reflection Report
- Senior Exhibition Day

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Is 24/7 Available

(information and resources)

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The Future of Senior Seminar and Capstone

- Integration of Junior Seminar (In Process)
- Integration of Sophomore and Freshmen Seminar
- Organization of a Mini-Capstone for 8th Grade (In Process)
- Implementation of the Project-Based model in other disciplines (In process)
- Meeting MTs from other disciplines (Pilotting in this year)

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Let Learning be the Constant and Time be the Variable

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