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Facilitated by: Dr. Michael Canuel













What is NEXTschool?

First and foremost it is an organizational framework of systems and processes that is designed to sustain scalable and sustainable educational change.

It is not a project.

It is not a curriculum.

It is not a program.







INITIATIVE OBJECTIVES

The NEXTschool Initiative has at its primary objective to introduce a framework into schools across the province which will allow them to become "future ready schools" and to answer the primary design challenge:

"When High School is the best it can be at engaging students, and preparing them for the world ahead... what will it look like?"









Why NEXTschool?









What is the NEXTschool Initiative Framework?

The framework is anchored in a systems change management approach that recognizes that to bring about change, there needs to be an awareness of current trends, and to understand and appreciate that there is an interconnectedness and interdependence integral to the process. There are 5 systems drivers developed by the NEXTschool Initiative, and that are core to the entire endeavour. No educational change can be realistically undertaken without considering each and everyone of them.



NEXTschool Systems Drivers



SPATIAL

where learning takes place: both physically (in school and community), as well as virtually (external and globally connected resources



TEMPORAL

when learning ideally takes place: time of year, length of time(s)-on-task, developmental age, frequency and duration



ANDRAGOGICAL

what and how of

a learner-centered
experience:
curricular and
teaching methods,
outcomes,
assessment, and
disciplinary
organization



RELATIONAL

who takes part in the learning experience: the emotional and motivational aspects, as well as whom we learn from, with, and



COMMUNAL

integration of learning within society and the place of the learner as essential elements of community development and productive citizenship

What is the approach being employed?



- From the outset, the approach has included key players both in the community and in the educational system, and has fostered a bottom-up and top-down approach.
- ◆ It is essential to the process that everyone has a voice and participates on an equal footing.
- ◆ To succeed there can be no coercion and that every NEXTschool reflect the interests, needs, and values of their respective communities.



There are 7 which are inspired by the OECD.

- The NEXTschool Initiative
- Places the learner up front and center in the process
- Integrates the social nature of learning
- Incorporates a holistic and humanistic design

- Adapts and evolves continuously
- Employs assessment for learning
- Emphasizes collaborative interdependence and interconnectivity
- Assures responsibility for all and at all times





Does the NEXTschool Initiative have essential components in its framework?

While every NEXTschool will be unique and customizable, there are 5 essential components that must be incorporated into the school's modus operandi, and which reflect the 5 system drivers.

- ✓ Multiple and customizable settings for learning
- ✓ Personalized competency based instructional strategies that incorporate project-based learning
- ✓ Collaborative teacher-student groupings that function as trans-disciplinary cohorts in ratios approximately 10 educators to 170 students
- ✓ Scheduling that is not bound by fixed time boundaries and allows for natural learning patterns as well as daily teacher strategizing
- ✓ Collaborative and inclusive planning, operations and review







Current Status of the NEXTschool Initiative

- √ 8 Participating schools
- √ 3 School Boards
- √ 5 Support Teams
- ✓ Explore Schools 2018-19
- ✓ Lead Schools 2019-20
- √ NEXTschool 2020-21







The Moral Imperative





Questions?

Thank you!

mcanuel@learnquebec.ca





