

High School Redesign

Educator Roles and Professional Development

This video is one of a series that presents the foundational principles of high school redesign in action. The schools showcased in these videos have been focused on redesign for three or more years and each video represents one way of implementing a foundational principle. It is important to keep in mind that there can be many ways to implement each principle.

As you view this series of videos, consider what you would want each foundational principle to look like in your school in one year? In two years? In five years? What would you want students to say about how personalization impacted their success in school?

“We are tapping into what we do really well ‘in house’ because there is a lot of really good things going on ‘in house’ and we can learn such a tremendous amount from each other.”

Key Understandings

The role of teacher as guide, coach and career mentor supports a more student-centred approach.

In a learning culture, all members of the school community learn from one another. Educators become learners, and students become teachers.

Capacity building is accelerated when professional learning goes beyond individual efforts and becomes collaborative work.

School administrators, as instructional leaders, need to ensure teachers have the professional development needed to support shifts in school culture and pedagogy. Teachers who are actively engaged as learners, and are able to make their teaching and learning more visible, are powerful role models for students.

Making teaching more visible not only helps students take more ownership of their own learning. It enables colleagues and school leaders to observe, provide feedback, and learn from one another.

Well-designed professional learning builds the knowledge, skills and understanding of teachers and school leaders and enables them to evolve their practice to better support all learners.

Professional learning can take many forms. At its most effective, it is job-embedded, ongoing and collaborative.



A Video Discussion Guide

Conversation starters

In what way does this video affirm or challenge your understanding of the evolving role of teachers?

How is the role of teachers changing in your school? What is driving these changes?

How do you actively model your role as a learner for your students? How can you make your teaching and learning more visible?

Discuss the question “How do we develop a learning environment that students can be successful in?” What conditions must be in place to foster this type of environment in our schools?

What kind of professional learning is making the biggest difference for you? How is it changing your practice?

What role does collaboration play in your professional learning? How is collaboration changing professional development in your school?

“How can I do things differently to meet the needs of our learners?”

Related Resources

Alberta Regional Consortia:
Moving Forward with High School Redesign
www.abhsredesign.ca

Alberta Education
High School Completion Strategic Framework
<https://education.alberta.ca/highschoolcompletion>

Edutopia
“4 Things Transformational Teachers Do” at
www.edutopia.org