Great Schools Partnership Personalized Learning Resources

Over the past several years, the Great Schools Partnership has developed a robust library of resources, tools, and guidance for administrators, school leaders, and educators who are working to implement personalized-learning systems in their districts and schools. All these tools and resources will be available to League of Innovative Schools members.

In addition, the Great Schools Partnership is rolling out a comprehensive online guide to proficiency-based learning in spring 2014, and will continue to develop additional tools and resources over the course of the Next Gen Systems Initiative project.

Assessment, Evaluation, and Action Planning

A comprehensive whole-school self-assessment process that distills research on the world’s highest performing school systems

Global Best Practices Research Summary
Summary of many of the research used to create Global Best Practices

Global Best Practices Facilitators Guide

District Self-Assessment for Proficiency-Based Learning  *Password Required
A secure online self-assessment process to support action planning for proficiency-based learning at the district and school levels (built in collaboration with the Maine Department of Education)

Self-Assessment for Personalized Learning Plans  *Password Required
An online self-assessment and action-planning process to support personal learning plans in districts and schools (built in collaboration with the Vermont Agency of Education)

iWalkthrough Classroom Observation
A web-based system that allows educators to conduct brief classroom observations, record evidence of teaching and learning strategies, and analyze instructional trends and patterns throughout a school

iWalkthrough Student Feedback
A web-based student-survey system, based on the Measures of Effective Teaching study, that gives administrators and teacher detailed feedback on teaching and learning from the students’ perspective

iWalkthrough Action Planning

Cycle of Action: Goal-Driven School Coaching
A step-by-step guide to supporting the development of long-term improvement planning in schools and districts
Curriculum and Instruction

Exemplar Graduation Standards and Performance Indicators
A collection of exemplar graduation standards for use in a proficiency-based systems—including standards for K–5, 6–8, and 9–12 grade spans.
- Maine Guiding Principles (21st Century Skills)
- English Language Arts (Common Core State Standards)
- Mathematics (Common Core State Standards)
- Science (Next Generation Science Standards)
- Social Studies (Maine Learning Standards)
- World Languages (Maine Learning Standards)
- Visual and Performing Arts (Maine Learning Standards)
- Health and Physical Education (Maine Learning Standards)
- Career and Education Development (Maine Learning Standards)

Proficiency-Based Learning Simplified Model
Organizing schema for designing a manageable proficiency-based-learning system that supports personalized learning and college and career readiness

Getting to Proficiency
Support resources and guidance for implementing proficiency-based learning and graduation systems (built in collaboration with the Maine Department of Education)

Support Resources for Personalized Learning Plans
Support resources and guidance for implementing personal learning plans in districts and schools (built in collaboration with the Vermont Agency of Education)

Harnessing Teacher Knowledge: A Guide to Developing School-Based Systems for Professional Learning and Planning
A suite of resources designed to help educational leaders and teachers develop a high-impact professional learning and planning program in their school

Great Schools Partnership Webinars
A series of free monthly webinars on school-improvement topics for educational leaders and teachers

Personalized Support and Intervention Systems

First Response: A Guide to Designing and Delivering Classroom Interventions
A guide is designed to help school leaders, teachers, paraprofessionals, and support specialists design and deliver more effective interventions in the classroom

Ninth Grade Counts: Strengthening the Transition into High School
A guide created to help schools diagnose systemic weaknesses in their ninth-grade programs, and improve the practices they use to support students entering ninth grade

Ninth Grade Counts: Strengthening the High School Transition for English Language Learners
A guide that equips educators with research-based insights and strategies they can use to strengthen support programs for English language learners

Ninth Grade Counts: Using Summer Bridge Programs to Strengthen the High School Transition
A guide that helps school develop or improve summer bridge programs designed to eliminate learning gaps and prepare students for success in ninth grade
Professional Networking and Sharing

League of Innovative Schools
The New England Secondary School Consortium’s League of Innovative Schools brings together schools committed to personalizing learning for all students

Learning in Action: A Guide to Conducting High-Impact School Visits
A step-by-step guide that helps visiting and hosting schools prepare for a successful site visit, from the selection of appropriate schools to investigating the evidence of success to sharing and implementing lessons learned with colleagues

High School Redesign in Action Conference
Annual conference for educators to share success stories, exchange best practices, and build momentum for personalized innovations that will prepare all students for success in the colleges, careers, and communities of the 21st century

State Twitter Chats
Three statewide Twitter chats and professional learning networks for K–12 educators interested in fostering a collaborative community that learns from and supports one another
Maine (#edchatme)
Rhode Island (#edchatri)
Vermont (#vted)

Public Will and Community Engagement

Leadership in Action Briefings
A series of briefings on some of the most important educational issues affecting today’s students, high schools, and communities

The Glossary of Education Reform
A comprehensive online resource that describes widely used school-improvement terms, concepts, and strategies for journalists, parents, and community members

Collegiate Endorsement of Proficiency-Based Education and Graduation
An initiative to recruit institutions of higher education to endorse proficiency-based learning—the NESSC currently has 48 signatories, including all the public universities and colleges in four states (edit)