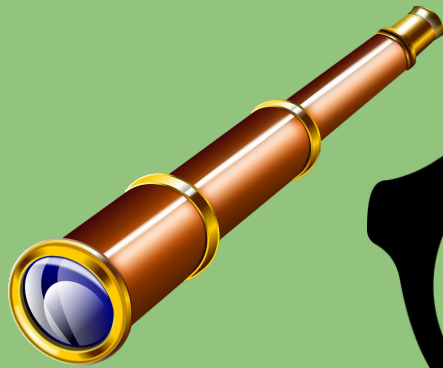


Colchester Middle School

Report to the School Board

May 16, 2017

My Observations of CMS in my time here through the lens of “This We Believe: Keys to Educating Young Adolescents”



Strengths

Staff committed to middle school philosophy

Team structure in place

Written curriculum in all content areas

Literacy support

Teacher leaders in content areas

Areas of Need

Leadership structure to support middle school best practice

Shared mission

Teacher Empowerment/Collaborative Culture

Math support

Collaborative team time



WHY?

Our Colchester Middle School Mission is to
create an environment that is...

Developmentally Responsive
Challenging
Empowering
Equitable for All

HOW?

Distributive Leadership

Tarrant Partnership

CMS Team Structure

Was

Curriculum Leadership Team

Teachers represent content:

Math
Science
Language Arts
Social Studies
Unified Arts

Now

Distributive Leadership Team

Teachers represent teaching teams:

6th grade (3 sub teams)
Champlain
Harbor
Polaris
Infinity
Unified Arts
Special Education

A partnership with

TARRANT
INSTITUTE for
INNOVATIVE
EDUCATION

the Tarrant Institute
for Innovative Education



WHAT?

Our Action Plan

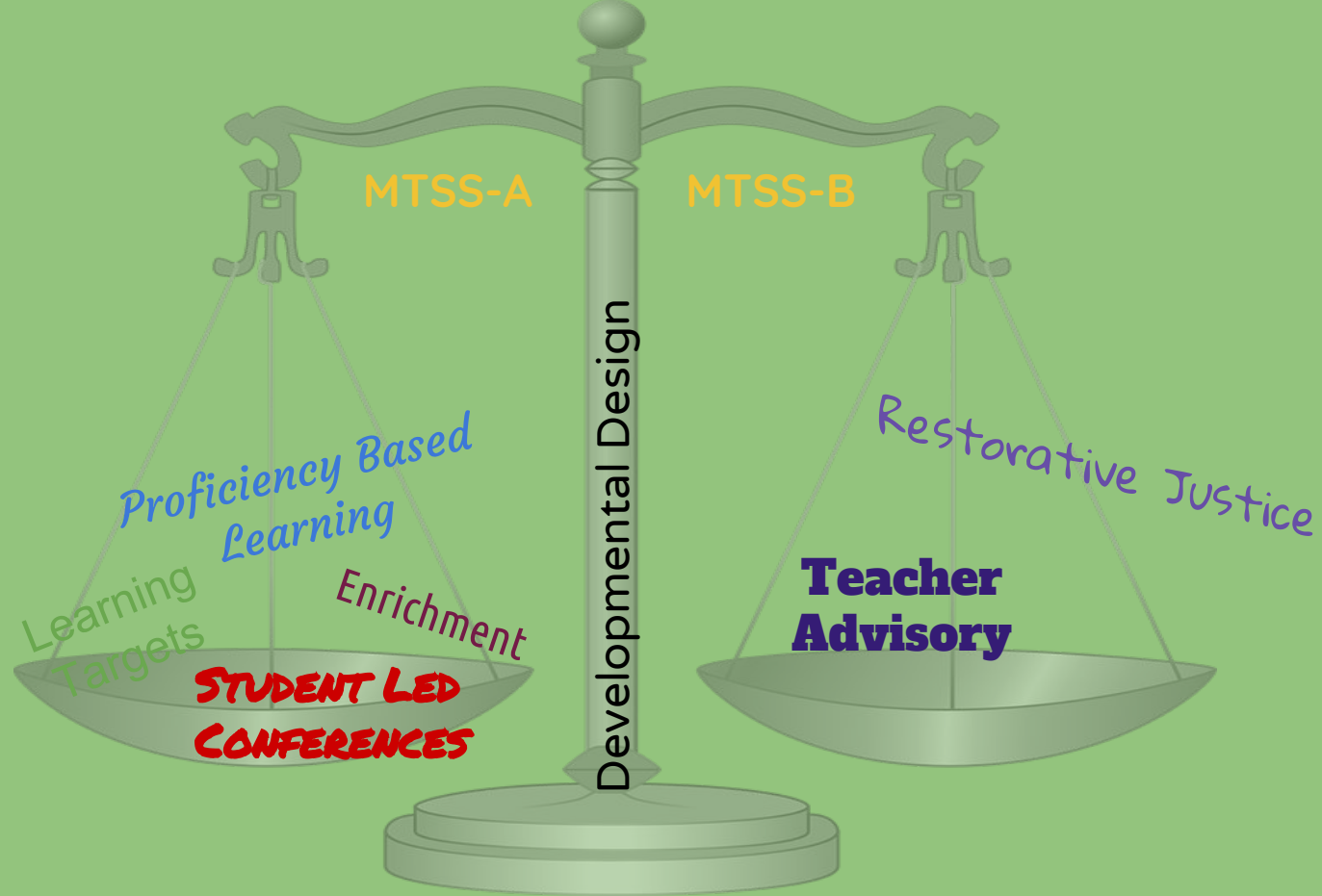
MTSS-A

MTSS-B

Proficiency Based Learning
Enrichment
Learning Targets
Student Led Conferences

Teacher Advisory
Developmental Design
Restorative Justice

This We Believe



This we believe...

CMS' Focus for 2016-17

TECHNOLOGY

TEACHER ADVISORY

TEAMING

STUDENT LED CONFERENCES

Technology Integration

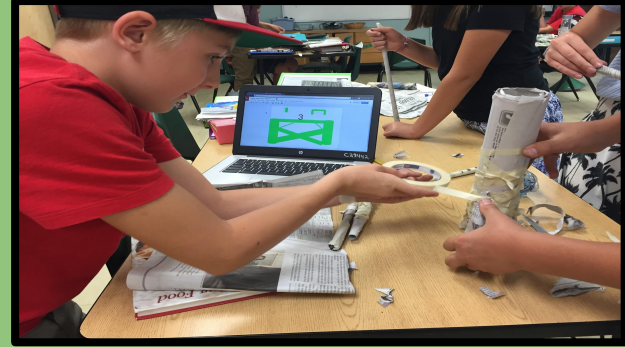
Why?

**If we teach today's
students as we taught
yesterday's, we rob them of
tomorrow.**

~John Dewey

How?

In collaboration with our 9-12 colleagues
During 3 Early Release Days
Digital Learning Council



What?

- Build common understanding of our learners in the 21st Century
- Develop understanding of the ISTE Standards and the SAMR Model
- Learn new technology applications to use in the classroom
- Build understanding of how to use technology to redefine learning
- Learn and teach digital literacy
- Student and teacher Boot Camp experience



TEAMING

Why?

Foundation to building small community within the larger school community

Allows for a group of teachers to intimately know students academic and social needs



How?

Professional Development focused on teaming concept

Common daily team meeting time

What?

Learned about the components of middle school teaming

Worked with students to develop common expectations for behavior

Developing team traditions: Friday “shout out,” quarterly celebration

Meeting daily for: curriculum planning, student conversations, reviewing data, team business

TEACHER ADVISORY

Why?

Social and emotional skill development

Creates a caring, inclusive and safe school community

Improved attitudes about themselves, others and the school

Increased achievement test scores and school grades



How?

Three teachers and principal participated in Developmental Designs I course (summer of 2016)

Professional Development focus

Teacher leaders shared their experiences

Modeling during staff meetings

Teams were given co-planning time

What?

Developed morning TA routine

Developed end of day TA format

Relationships

Sharing

Share knowledge



Greeting

Activity



Student Led Conferences

Why?

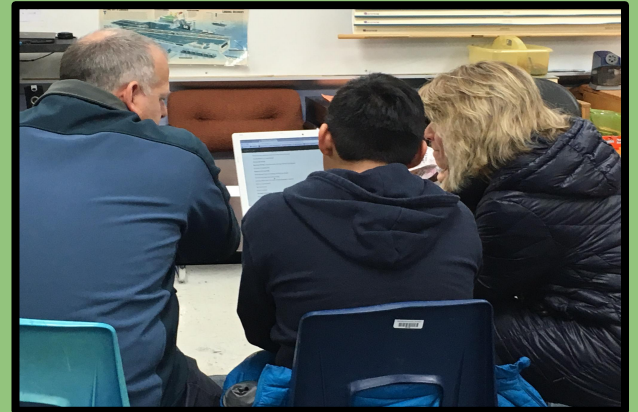
They put students in the center of their learning:

Student driven

Samples of Work

Goal setting

High Accountability



How?

Professional Development focus
Collaborative work across teams

What?

Students created a format collect, evaluate and present their work to their parents

2016-17 SUCCESSES

Technology Integration

Student Boot Camp

Common Sense Media to teach digital learning and citizenship

New tech applications being used in classrooms

2016-17 SUCCESSES

TEAMING

Team Norms established for every team

Team traditions being established (Friday “shout outs;” monthly recognition celebrations)

Daily meeting time

2016-17 SUCCESSES

TEACHER ADVISORY

All TA's use common morning structure building community including greeting, sharing and/or activity

Format for end of day TA

Training in Restorative Practice and circle use in TA (privilege and diversity)

2016-17 SUCCESSES

Student Led Conferences

Piloted a few versions of SLC formats in March

Next Steps for 2017-18

Proficiency

Enrichment

Developmental Design

Proficiency Based Learning

Why?

Proficiency based teaching and learning puts students center in the learning by providing accountability to and from the student

Outcomes?

Content areas identify grade level proficiencies

Identify learning targets - uniform within departments

Identify practice opportunities for each target

Develop formative and summative assessments

Enrichment

Why?

Provide a strong academic support system

Outcomes?

Identify the proficiencies for math and literacy

Determine a structure for providing supplemental instruction

Identify assessments in literacy and math to evaluate proficiency

Determine best instructional strategies

Identify resources for instruction

Developmental Design

Why?

Developmental Design provides a framework for establishing academic and behavior expectations and systems

Outcomes?

Build understanding of the tenets of DD

Utilize a common language and classroom structure school wide

Develop a common framework for responding to behavior

How will we achieve our goals?

Two focus groups: proficiency and enrichment

23 of 39 teachers taking DDI or DDII this summer

Continued partnership with the Tarrant Institute

Questions

