Personalization and Innovation in Education

Daniel M. French, January 31, 2014

Two Implications of Tech

- Personalized student learning
- Educators working laterally in a common development platform

Personalized Learning

- Designing learning activities to support individual student aspirations
- Designing learning activities to support individual student academic growth irrespective of assigned grade levels
- Using just-in-time assessment to monitor individual student academic growth over time
- Creating new systems to document student learning to provide evidence of individual student growth over time

A school cannot personalize learning for students without connecting educators in a common development platform.

Lateral Innovation Network

Open the instructional, professional, and curriculum development processes to a peer-led network in order to provide a more effective means for sharing best practices and transferring them more rapidly among a group of schools.

David Hargreaves

Working Laterally

Create a climate for teachers to innovate by promoting:

- the *motivation* to create new professional knowledge;
- the *opportunity* to engage actively in innovation;
- the *skills* for testing the validity of the new knowledge; and
- the *means* for transferring the validated innovations rapidly within their school and into other schools.

Creation of Best Practice

- Must have positive impact on student outcomes
- High Leverage: achieves a large effect for a small energy input
- High Transferability: must be easy to transfer to other teachers
- Good Practices evolve into Best Practices through "natural selection" from the network

A Best Practice is a Good Practice that has both high leverage and high transferability.

School Transformation

School Transformation is the **rapid** identification, dissemination, implementation, and evaluation of best practices across a system in order to personalize learning for each student.

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