The Opportunities & Implementation of Competency-Based Education

Monday, Oct. 21, 2019 ♦ Marriott Boston Quincy

Cohorts • Conferences • Career Placement • Faculty PD • Research • ePortfolios

Opportunities
Pathways
Competencies
Portfolios
Transcripts
Report Cards
Agency
Meta-cognition
Wellness
www.oesisgroup.com
Dear OESIS Boston Attendees:

We have spent the past four months visiting close to 50 schools, and we intend to get to 200 this year hopefully. Why? Because we finally see a path ahead to transformation for all our network schools: one that is not standardized, one that is not a prescription of a particular pedagogy or curriculum or technology, and one that is not a function of some radical turbulent change process.

After doing our last research report we set ourselves one task. To put our conclusions into action, and find a way to the incremental change that we claimed was one of the key differentiators of Competency-Based Education. In this conference, we explore how we think schools can get there whilst preserving their unique values and identities, whilst calibrating their pedagogical mixes and whilst maintaining structures that represent important historic foundations of developmental appropriateness, excellence, rigor and well-being.

We have lost count of the number of conferences we have done in the past seven years — somewhere well above 20 with actually three this month in Las Vegas, here in Boston and Los Angeles. We thank our presenters and schools for growing this network.

Kind Regards,

Sanje Ratnavale
President
OESIS Group
The Opportunities & Implementation of Competency Based Education

6.45 a.m. – 7.15 a.m. Breakfast
7.30 a.m. – 8.00 a.m. OESIS Network Leaders and OESIS-XP School Liaisons Board Meeting
8.15 a.m. – 9.30 a.m. Main Ballroom
8.15 a.m. – 8.55 a.m. Keynote 1
Richard Branson
Executive Director
Connecticut Association of Independent Schools (CAIS)

9.40 a.m. – 10.40 a.m. Main Ballroom
9.40 a.m. – 10.40 a.m. Keynote 2
Rob Abel
Chief Executive Officer
IMS Global

10.45 a.m. – 11.20 a.m. Main Ballroom
10.45 a.m. – 11.20 a.m. Keynote 3
Jennifer Galambos, Head of School
Julia Gentile, Upper School Director
Kent Place School (NJ)

11.20 a.m. – 12.05 p.m. Lunch
11.20 a.m. – 12.05 p.m. Keynote 4
Tim Quinn, Chief Academic Officer
Miss Porter’s School (CT)

12.05 p.m. – 1.00 p.m. Heads of School & Academic Leaders Lunch Panel
We will discuss: How can PBL, SEL and CBE work together or without each other? Do inter-disciplinary courses need to be thematic-content driven? Are you really doing PBL? What does equity in programming mean? How should PD look for CBE? Can CBE exist alongside grades? What exactly is curricular renewal?

12.15 p.m. – 1.00 p.m. Heads of School & Academic Leaders Lunch Panel

12.15 p.m. – 1.00 p.m. Keynote 5
Sue Sadler, Head of School, and Elaine Swyrm, Associate Head of School, Bryn Mawr School for Girls (MD)

1.00 p.m. – 1.45 p.m. Keynote 5
1.00 p.m. – 1.45 p.m. Working Through the Mess: School Change for Sustainability and Salvation
Tim Quinn, Chief Academic Officer
Miss Porter’s School (CT)

1.45 p.m. – 2.30 p.m. Keynote 6
Role of Student Choice in Building Confident & Healthy Student Leaders
Sue Sadler, Head of School, and Elaine Swyrm, Associate Head of School, Bryn Mawr School for Girls (MD)

2.30 p.m. – 3.15 p.m. Keynote 6
Power Outcomes in a Global Context: From Student Agency to Sustainability
Dennis Bisgaard
Head of School
Whittle School & Studios (DC)
Greg Carlson
Education Program Designer
Whittle School and Studios (NYC)
Page Stites
Director of Studies
Whittle School & Studios (DC)
Jacklyn White
Director of Innovation
Whittle School & Studios (DC)

8.15 a.m. – 8.55 a.m. OESIS Keynote
Sanje Ratnavale
President
OESIS Group

8.55 a.m. – 9.30 a.m. OESIS Keynote
Sanje Ratnavale
President
OESIS Group

9.30 a.m. – 9.40 a.m. Coffee
9.40 a.m. – 10.40 a.m. Workshops led by OESIS Network Leaders

A-1 Articulation Strategies and the Process of Embedding and Assessing Competencies
Joel Backon, Vice President, OESIS Group; Tara Quigley, Director of Miss Fine’s Center for Interdisciplinary Studies, Princeton Day School (NJ); Charlotte Buecheler, English Teacher, Rocky Hill School (RI); and Jonathan Martin, Author of Reinventing Crediting for Competency Based Education (AZ)
Explore how schools progress from competency, outcome, meta-skill and performance indicator mapping to infusion throughout a school program and eventually to fully setting up the assessment environment for CBE. Examine the issues from cognitive load, language differences to data to inflation to correlation with standards and more. Understand some of the various constituency explanation issues and needs.

A-2 Platforms, Data and Systems for Competency Based Education…in plain English
Sanje Ratnavale, President, OESIS Group; and Jackie Christensen, Blackbaud Education Management Group
Explore the relationships between Mastery and Assessment platforms, the Learning Management System, Student Information System, ePortfolios, Gradebooks, Badging platforms, and the ways in which these systems interact in layman’s terms. Examine the implications for lower, middle and upper schools, and specific use cases. Examine the opportunities for data, and benchmarking. Understand the options ranging from pilots to schoolwide deployments.

A-3 Standards-Based Grading in Math & Languages: Changing Mindsets
Guy Vandenbroucke, Teacher, Crossroads School for Arts and Sciences (CA); Dave Pillsbury, Math Teacher, Northfield Mount Hermon (MA)
Explore how two schools have used SBG in their classrooms, how they have helped to give students greater transparency over their assessments and pathways, the effect on mindsets and the ways data can be used to improve instruction, feedback, and intervention.

IMS Global Consortium is a non profit consortium of colleges, foundations, K–12, and large technology providers seeking to build an interoperable set of standards for tools, transcripts and more. These standards define the way systems communicate so assessment, curriculum and resources are integrated seamlessly.

K–12, and large technology providers seeking to build an interoperable set of standards for tools, transcripts and more. These standards define the way systems communicate so assessment, curriculum and resources are integrated seamlessly.
3.15 p.m. – 3.30 p.m. Tea

3.30 p.m. – 4.30 p.m. Workshops Led by OESIS Network Leaders

B-1 Forced to Grade: How can we do it Better?
Nicholas Dressler, English Teacher, De Smet Jesuit (MO)
We all recognize that there are significant deficiencies with grading and yet there are ways to make it more purposeful and meaningful. We look at implementation strategies at a granular level from statements of purpose, uncoupling, grading categories, non-achievement factors, the use of different types of rubrics, the intersection between CBE and grades, and more.

Salon 2/3

B-2 Navigating Cultural Change
Tim Quinn, Chief Academic Officer, Miss Porter’s School (CT) and Richard Branson, Executive Director, Connecticut Association of Independent Schools (CAIS)
We look at if there is a middle way to get us to where we need to whilst still preserving historically important structures like departments and grade levels. We look at how schools are going through this process with all constituencies. Hear from schools experiences, challenges, mistakes and opportunities and where to start from. Examine initiatives that work or are designed to run into formidable resistance. Look at themes that do and do not resonate. Identify school wide experiences that can move the ball.

Salon 8

B-3 Competencies Articulation Strategies and the Process of Embedding and Assessing
Joel Backon, Vice President, OESIS Group; Tara Quigley, Director of Miss Fire’s Center for Interdisciplinary Studies, Princeton Day School (NJ); and Jonathan Martin, Author of Reinventing Crediting for Competency Based Education (AZ)
Explore how schools progress from competency, outcome, meta-skill and performance indicator mapping and infusion throughout a school program to fully setting up the assessment environment for CBE: examine the issues from language to data to inflation to correlation with standards and more. Understand some of the various constituency explanation issues and needs.

4.30 p.m. – 5.15 p.m. Main Ballroom
School Readiness Assessment
Sanje Ratnavale, OESIS President, & Joel Backon, OESIS Vice President, will take participants through a readiness assessment checklist based on what we have seen at leading schools and what we have learned from the Learning Innovation Report 2019.

5.15 p.m. – 6.30 p.m. Foyer
Cocktail Party: You will deserve a drink at the end of this intense day!

5.15 p.m. – 6.30 p.m. Foyer
Jonathan Martin Book Signing: Reinventing Crediting for Competency Based Education

Advancing Next Generation K-12 Digital Transcripts
Partnership for Interoperable Versatile Open Transcripts

“The time is right for us to take the vision of a Comprehensive Learner Record (CLR) into mainstream acceptance and adoption in K-12. IMS Global has built the technical backbone via open standards of an interoperable CLR ecosystem; Competency Based Education has gained widespread acceptance of its potential impact on student equity, on growth and its ability to provide greater learner agency; higher education has completed pilots with CLR approaches and K-12 can learn from these initiatives; technology platforms from e-portfolios, mastery assessment platforms, SIS and data warehouses are capturing more student learning; colleges are increasingly looking for more holistic pictures of admission applicants; and concerns have arisen about the impact of grades on student health, not to mention their validity for real student learning, resilience and growth.”

Sanje Ratnavale, Co-Chair PIVOT and President, OESIS Network of 600+ schools
OESIS Pathways are the gateway to faculty and student competency-based assessment, credentialing, & ePortfolios

Each OESIS Pathway has four different levels, each requiring a minimum of eight hours of work. The PD experience can be more immersive if the faculty member takes a deeper dive into the content. All Pathways have submissions and multiple reviewer options. Pathways leverage our significant subject level and division specific content in OESIS-XP.

INTRODUCTORY LEVEL PATHWAY
This Pathway provides a series of 6-8 milestones of readings, videos and reflections that are estimated to take 8-10 hours to complete. It will provide the educator with a good understanding of the pedagogical or curricular domain including exposure to content relevant to them in their specific department or division.

LEVEL 1 PATHWAY: PLANNING First Year with Master Mentor
This Pathway requires the Introductory level Badge as a pre-requisite or school senior admin approval. For the teacher(s) who is ready to do the planning and preparation, this pathway provides a series of tasks as well as deeper content exploration. Akin to a Cohort, this Level 1 is done as a group of teachers with group discussions and peer review expected. It also includes live check-ins with Pathway evaluators.

LEVEL 2 PATHWAY: PRACTITIONER Post Year One
This Pathway is for those who have generally completed Level 1 with at least 1 year’s experience. It will require a reflection and analysis of performance and plans for improvement and change. Again akin to a Cohort this level is done as a Group with peer feedback and includes live discussion with the Pathway evaluators.

LEVEL 3 PATHWAY: MASTER CREDENTIAL
This Pathway is primarily a series of peer collaboration and review steps of a teacher who has two or three years experience in a domain. It includes presentation of their work, analysis and research behind practice and outcomes.

Faculty who successfully complete OESIS Network Verified Pathways will earn digital badges. 
Cost: $100 introductory pathway; and $150 for each Level 1, Level 2 or Level 3 Pathway.

Email joel.backon@oesisgroup.com to register.
Joel Backon joined OESIS July 2019 as Vice President. He partners with progressive independent schools in our network to develop programs and resources to foster school academic and co-curricular achievements, as well as facility professional development. Joel comes from Choate Rosemary Hall (CT) where he has held key roles in Information Technology, Academic Technology, as classroom teacher, curriculum designer, and in academic and student life advising for 27 years. He has been an OESIS Network Leader since 2015.

A teacher since 1991, Tara Quigley has been serving as the Director of Miss Fine’s Center for Interdisciplinary Studies since 2014. She is dedicated to educating and empowering teachers to try new pedagogical practices and strategies, including Design Thinking, and teaching towards mastery of skills and competencies. She is also a co-chair of the Academic Affairs Committee at Princeton Day School where she has been for 18 years. As an OESIS Network Leader and PBL cohort facilitator, Tara frequently shares her process and experiences with her colleagues at peer schools and at national conferences.

Tara Quigley
Director of Miss Fine’s Center for Interdisciplinary Studies, and 4th Grade Humanities Teacher, Princeton Day School (NJ)
FACULTY LED. RESEARCH DRIVEN. PRACTITIONER FOCUSED.
Through transformative adult learning, we elevate student learning.

UPCOMING ONLINE PROGRAMS:

Project Zero Online
February 24 – May 24, 2020

Two-Week Online Workshops
Fall series registration now open

Certificate in Advanced Education Leadership
Modules begin in the fall, spring, and summer

For a complete list of more than 50 high-impact programs for teachers, instructional leaders, school leaders, and district administrators, visit hgse.me/oesis

“Professional Education programs are instructional communities that aid leaders and practitioners in developing hands-on solutions to inspire powerful change.”
— André Morgan, Former Program Director, Raise Your Hand Texas; Ed.L.D. Class of 2019