

Transylvania Learning

*An update on learning and teaching provided to the
Transylvania County Board of Education.*

October 17, 2016

Dr. Jeremy Gibbs, Chief Academic Officer



Transylvania Learning added 4 new photos.

Published by Jeremy Gibbs [?] · October 10 at 8:26pm · 🌐

These high school juniors from Davidson River School, Rosman High School, and Brevard High School participated in Environment and Natural Resources day today at Gorges State Park with the Viz Student Leadership Program. Viz is a program offered through a partnership with VISION Transylvania and Transylvania County Schools. Today these students took on the challenges presented in managing our county's natural resources. They also worked to generate solutions to high-leverage problems that we face today and in the future here in Transylvania County.



"If we forget the learner as we crank out lessons solely focused on goals that young people don't care much about, we've forgotten what teaching really is."

- Carol Ann Tomlinson



Lesson Plans Well Served

I'm a worrier at heart, fretting about odd things that probably don't stalk folks who have a less porous filter. One of my worries has to do with...

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Transylvania Learning added 5 new photos — at 📍 Rosman Middle.

Published by Jeremy Gibbs [?] · October 10 at 7:54pm · Rosman · 🌐

From negative numbers to negative campaign ads, it was all covered at Rosman Middle today. RMS teachers were facilitating learning and offering students choices on how to get involved in their own learning.





Transylvania Learning added 13 new photos to the album: Professional Learning with Rosman Middle and High — at [Rosman High School](#).

Published by Jeremy Gibbs [?] · September 22 at 10:18am · 🌐

Yesterday's early release day for students served a great purpose. Our teachers were able to engage in professional learning with one another all across our school system. I had the pleasure of joining the staff at both Rosman Middle and Rosman High as they explore how they can work collaboratively in a Professional Learning Community to advance student growth at both schools. These teachers and other staff members are clearly dedicated to their students, their community, and to one another.

4 Questions Guide the Work

- 1. What should students know and be able to do as a result of this course, class, or grade level?
- 2. How will we know that the students are not learning?
- 3. How do we respond when students do not learn?
- 4. How do we respond when students learn more?

ASCD

"Lesson plans don't teach, teachers do. The ability to execute a well-designed plan is just as important as the plan itself."

Douglas Fisher, Nancy Frey, and Stefani Arzonetti Hite

Intentional and Targeted Teaching



Transylvania Learning added 9 new photos — at [Davidson River School](#).

Published by Jeremy Gibbs [?] · September 19 at 3:10pm · 🌐

A wonderful morning spent at Davidson River School. Our school system's School of Alternatives kicked off a new week focused on learning and supporting students' needs--focusing on the whole child. Students at DRS work in smaller classes and staff there focus on finding different ways to reach ALL students. The small school is nurturing but fosters a culture of high expectations. The success of students who attend this school only comes through collaboration among staff and the community as well as a lot of hard work by students. Thanks to Mrs. Wilde and her dedicated staff, our system can be proud of the meaningful learning and the tremendous impact that this great school has had, and will long continue to have, in our community.



Tonight's Topics

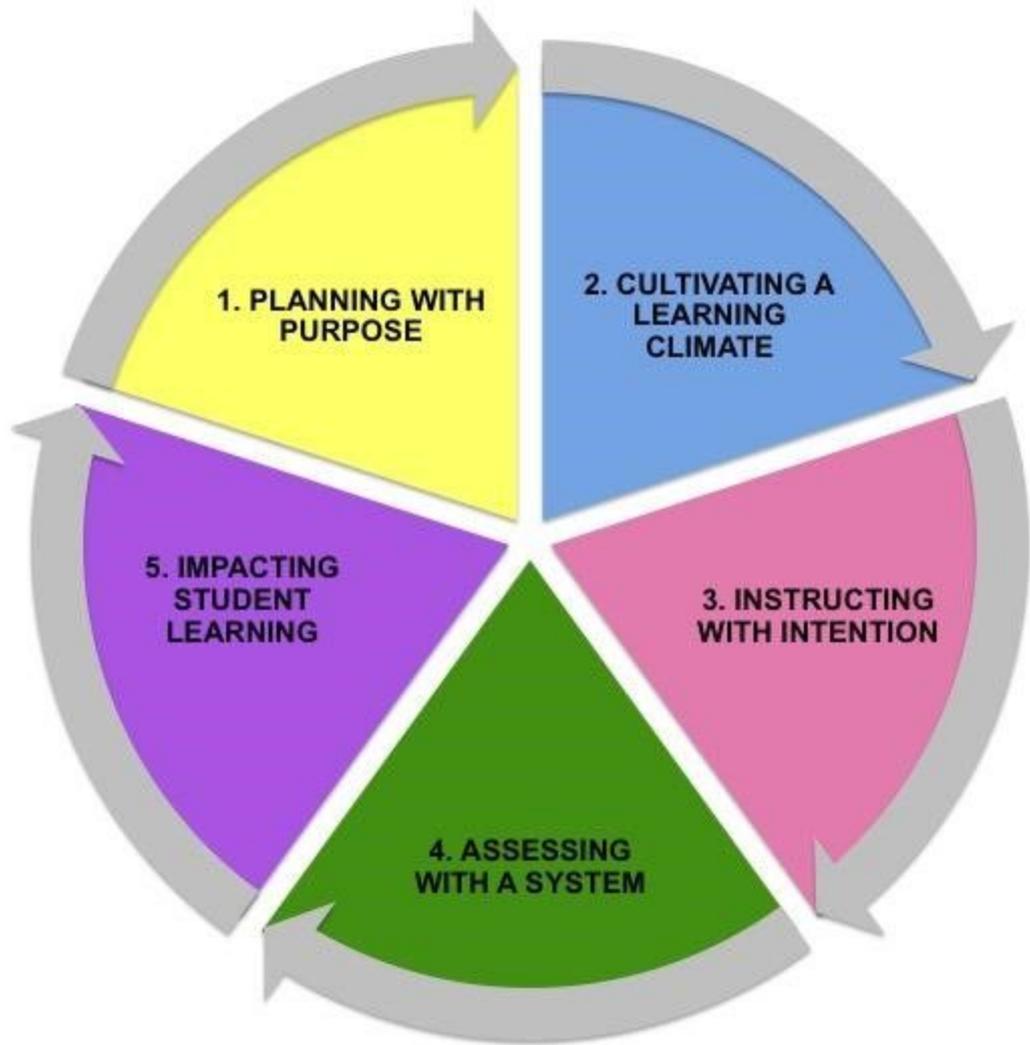
Professional Development

1. Planning with purpose
2. Cultivating a learning climate

School Improvement Planning

Professional Development Focus: FIT Teaching

*Intentional and Targeted Teaching:
A Framework for Teacher Growth and Leadership
Douglas Fisher, Nancy Frey, & Stephanie Hite*



Planning with Purpose: Major Concepts

Learning intentions and progressions

Transfer goals, themes, & language learning

Evidence of Learning

Success criteria and evidence collection

Meaningful Learning

Designing aligned experiences and differentiation

Quotes from learners...

“I think the idea of transfer goals is incredibly important, especially in the current culture of high stakes testing and accountability. It's easy to get hyper-focused on specific standards and lose sight of the fact that in the end, we are trying to produce thoughtful and productive citizens, not just students who learned and mastered a particular set of skills.” *Anne Hardy, PFE*

“Essential learning begins with an initial display/vision of the final product/concept, then progresses from the basic, fundamental elements forward through to the end functional thought or idea.” *Greg Carter, RMS*

Quotes from learners...

“Clear success criteria should be shaped by the purpose of the lesson. I like the author's description of starting with the end in mind OR backwards planning. Students should know on the front end how that success will be determined.”

April Gaydosh, BES

“Clear success criteria will help the students and teachers know exactly what the assessment will look like and what the learning expectations will be. The success criteria will help teachers know if their students have successfully mastered the intended learning goal.” *Missy Ellenberger, PFE*

Cultivating a Learning Climate

Safe and Stimulating Classroom
Climate

Quality Instruction

Welcoming
Environment for All
Stakeholders

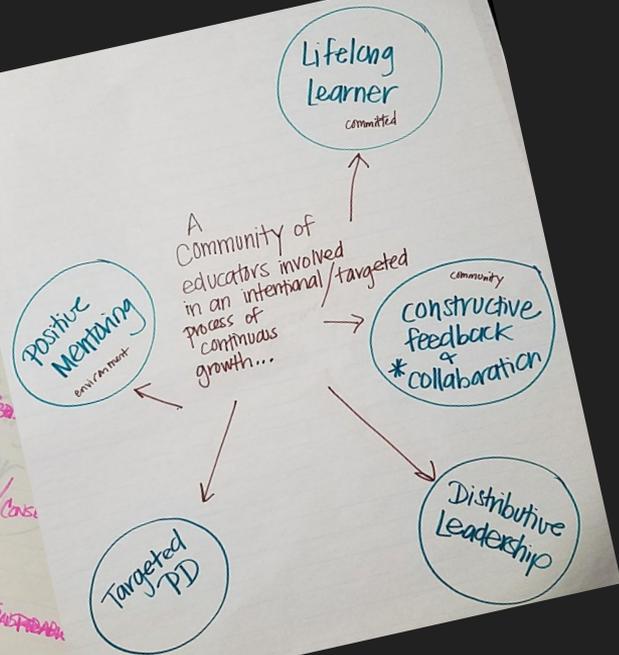
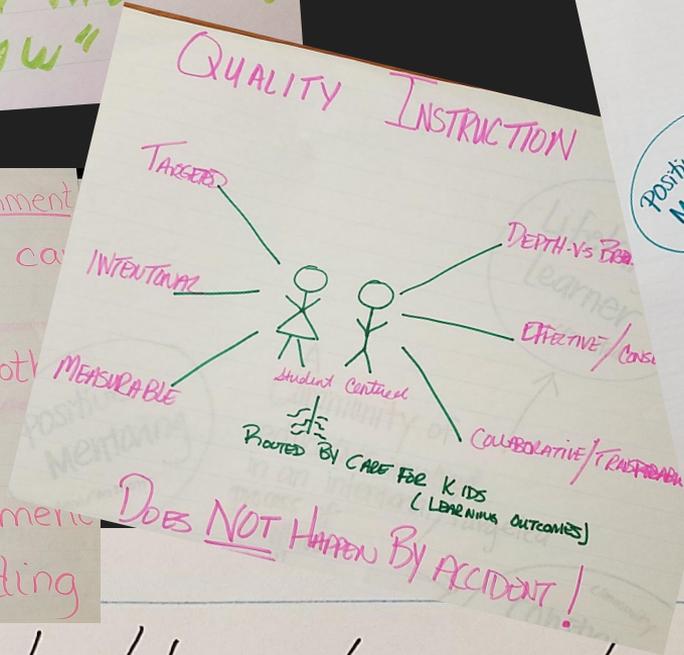
Emphasis on Developing
Professional Capacity of All
Educators

Strong Principal Leadership

"GO TO PERSON"
 "MANY THINGS TO MANY PEOPLE"
 "SEE A FUTURE, RESPECT THE PAST,
 UNDERSTAND THE NOW"

A welcoming environment
 for all stakeholders can
 for + have positive
 impact for one another

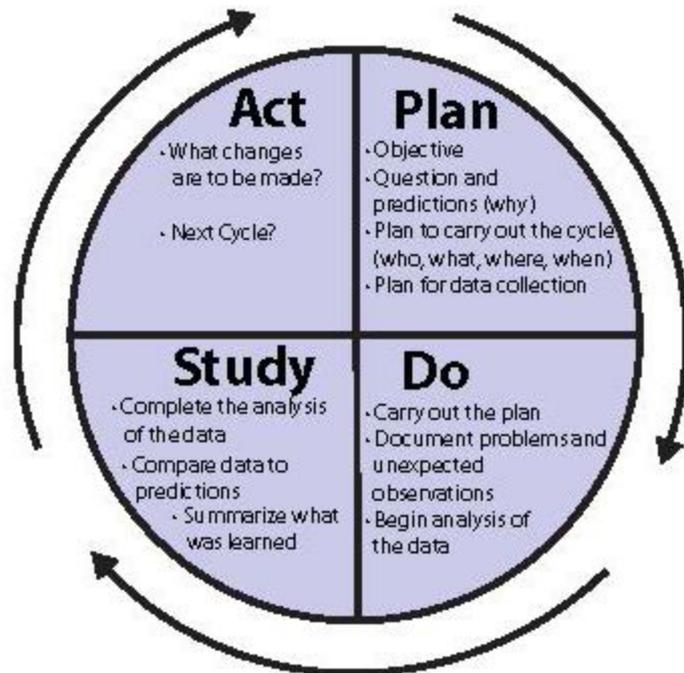
- * Positive Regard
- * Physical environment
- * Community Building



"Our safe and stimulating classrooms have clear structures that support empathy and positive learning experiences that engage all learners"

School Improvement Planning

The PDSA Cycle for Learning and Improving



PLAN

June: Met with school leaders and SIP chairs to discuss basic timeline and draft of goal form

Summer: Schools gathered information and began the process

August-September: Gather team, review data, and begin drafting the plan

October: Receive feedback on plan, refine plan, and add to plan

November/Early December: Complete plan and conduct a vote

December 19: Completed plans presented to BOE for approval

DO

After approval, coaching and support is provided while the plan is implemented

Teams/Schools work their plan (action steps in the DO section)

At least 2 coaching sessions provided in the spring to check progress and offer support

Summer/Fall brings data analysis and measuring progress

Transylvania County Schools
School Improvement Plan
A Continuous Improvement Strategic Plan

School Name:	Year:	Principal:	SIT Chair:
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P	PLAN: Identify the gap and the approach	
Overall SMART Goal (Two year projection):		
Data Analysis. Answer the question below using any data and/or information you have about your performance.		
In order to meet your Overall Goal, what is the most important area that needs improving and why? (If you have data that helped you answer this question, please attach it.)		
Data Analysis. Answer the data analysis questions.		
1. What is contributing to your success in this area and how do you know?	2. What opportunities for improvement do you notice?	3. What seems to be the root cause of the problem and how do you know?

STUDY & ACT

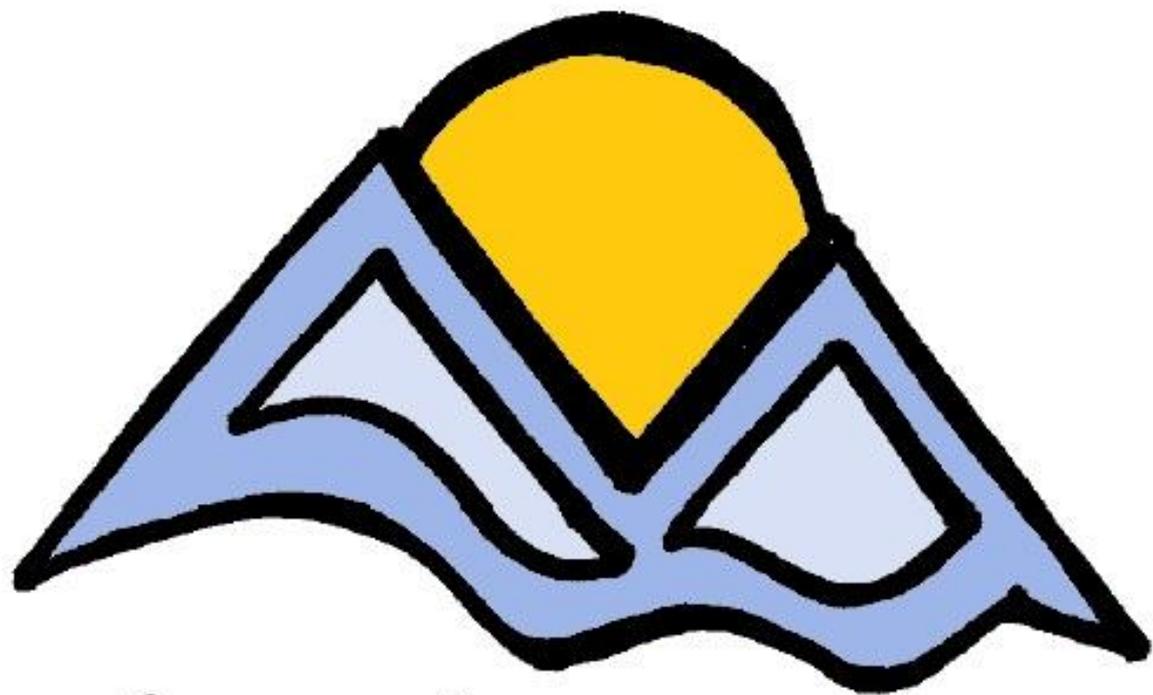
Fall 2017 kicks off the beginning of the second cycle of improvement (year 2) with analysis of progress and determining what was learned over the past year

SWOT analysis, Needs assessment, and so on

Teams make refinements and changes for the second year

Teams begin work on their second cycle of improvement focused on the overall goal for improvement

End point is December 2018 (new plan generated, based off of progress on previous plan)



Transylvania
County Schools