

Innovation in Education – Mastery-based Learning

WVBE Policy 3236: Innovation in Education



Innovation in Education Act – W. Va. Code §18-5E

The West Virginia Board of Education created Policy 3234: Innovation in Education to address the components of the Act. Innovation zones were funded through 2016. After the funding ended for innovation zones, new legislation found in W. Va. Code §18-5E et seq. called the Innovation in Education Act was passed.

Focus areas addressed in the Innovation in Education Act:

- » Science, technology, engineering, the arts, and math (STEAM)
- » Community school partnerships
- » Entrepreneurship
- » Career pathways which include creating empowerment districts and/or mastery-based learning academies.

Mastery-Based Learning Schools

In 2019, a mastery-based learning component was added to the Innovation in Education Act with the passage of House Bill 2009. The West Virginia Department of Education (WVDE) and the Education Alliance jointly provide support for the implementation of mastery-based learning in the following participating high schools:

- » Buckhannon Upshur High School, Upshur County
- » Magnolia High School, Wetzel County
- » Martinsburg High School, Berkeley County
- » Nitro High School, Kanawha County
- » St. Albans High School, Kanawha County
- » Wheeling Park High School, Ohio County

In recent years, the Education Alliance and the WVDE have provided professional development, guidance, and technical support for participating West Virginia Network schools and are already preparing to provide continued support in 2025.

- » Site visits to mastery-based West Virginia schools for in-state network and professional learning sessions at Wheeling Park High School (November 2023) and Martinsburg High School (March 2024)
- » Individual school technical support onsite visits (February 2024)
- » Year 2 data collected through student surveys coordinated with Regional Educational Laboratory (Spring 2024)
- » Instructional strategies mastery-based learning webinars for English, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies (May 2024)
- » Two-day mastery-based learning summer professional learning session (June 2024)
- » Semi-annual check-in/technical assistance calls with school leadership teams (Fall 2024)
- » Build out planning for two (2) demonstration sites (Fall 2024- Spring 2025)

Next Steps

Applications are now open for schools to apply to participate in the Innovation in Education projects. Applications are reviewed and approved on a rolling basis. Approved schools typically begin the projects at the beginning of the fall or spring semester. Available options within the Innovation in Education project include:

- » Demonstration schools
- » Innovation in Education schools
- » Mastery-based learning school (currently high schools only, expand to middle school)



Innovation in Education Demonstration School Request

County: Berkeley County
School: Martinsburg High School

Innovation in Education Goals:


- Goal 1: 10% of students will demonstrate increased career readiness by 2028 (3%, 5%, 7%, 10%)
- Goal 2: 10% of students will demonstrate increased learning outcomes by 2028
- Goal 3: 5% increase in freshman enrollment in CTE courses and a 5% decrease in discipline in freshman due to stronger transition services

Innovative practices the school wishes to highlight as a demonstration school:

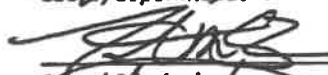
Intersession design and implementation, community ties with organizations like Explore Manufacturing,
Special Education CTE program: Individual Work Ready Competencies with a school store integration,
cotaught classes and an addition of a 10th grade cotaught remedial cohort, I can statements and simplification
of communication dialogues between students/teachers, Habits of Work progress, and supports for transition from 8th-9th.

By signing below the school agrees to be an Innovation in Education Demonstration School and will provide school visit opportunities to other educators a minimum of twice per academic year.

Please sign/date below:



 County Superintendent



 School Principal



 Faculty Senate Chair





Innovation in Education Demonstration School Request

County: OHIO
School: Wheeling Park High School

Innovation in Education Goals:

- Goal 1: Students will demonstrate an increase in career readiness
- Goal 2: Students will demonstrate an increase in learning outcomes
- Goal 3: Develop aligned pathways between MS and HS CTE simulated workplaces

Innovative practices the school wishes to highlight as a demonstration school:

- Use of Developmental Guidance to support MTSS models of for behavior attendance, mental health and academics
- Our Innovative Learning Center
- Habits of Work rubric to develop stronger student classroom behaviors

By signing below the school agrees to be an Innovation in Education Demonstration School and will provide school visit opportunities to other educators a minimum of twice per academic year.

Please sign/date below:

Kimberly S. Miller
County Superintendent
Meredith Dailer
School Principal
Ashley Kuea
Faculty Senate Chair

