



Innovation in Education West Virginia State Board of Education 2021-2022

Seeking Approval for the following two categories of schools to be named Innovation in Education Schools

2021-2022 New Applications for Innovation in Education:

1. 2019 Competency Based Learning (West Virginia Department of Education and The Education Alliance collaboration) –

The following schools participated in an incubator process and are currently in a pilot program that was extended into a second year due to the pandemic.

County	High Schools	Original Incubator Process 2019-2021	2021-2022 Pilot
Berkeley	Martinsburg	Yes	Yes
Kanawha	St. Albans	Yes	Yes
	Nitro	Yes	Yes
Ohio	Wheeling Park	Yes	Yes
Upshur	Buckhannon-Upshur	Yes	Yes
Wetzel	Magnolia	Yes	Yes

For the 2021-2022 school year, the West Virginia Department of Education (WVDE) and The Education Alliance (EA) will continue to work together with support from the Great Schools Partnership (GSP) to establish a Professional Learning Group for school and district leaders from the participating facilities. GSP agreed to meet monthly, including some sessions of a virtual tour of several schools, and to provide an opportunity for a one-on-one support session with each of the sites.

During incubation period:

- » The EA worked with the GSP and the WVDE to provide a Mastery-based Learning Leadership Webinar led by David Ruff of Great Schools Partnership (<https://www.greatschoolspartnership.org/>).
- » EA worked with WVDE to develop an application for schools to apply for Innovation in Education participation that aligns with the West Virginia Board of Education and enables schools to identify school-specific goals.
- » EA worked with GSP to provide two technical assistance calls, giving an overview of the school application as required by State Board Policy 3236.
- » EA worked with GSP and WVDE to convene a planning team for each school for a full day (virtual) School Application Work Session in which a team of educators from each school received technical assistance from GSP and time during the agenda (via virtual “breakout rooms”) to complete the application.
- » WVDE awarded a second grant to EA to support \$10,000 grants to each participating school and to enable educator participation in the project.

Remainder of 2021–2022 School Year:

- » The EA and the WVDE will work with the GSP to continue the work above.
- » Seek approval from West Virginia Board of Education (WVBE) to name the above schools Innovation in Education Schools.
- » If named an Innovation in Education School, the WVDE will assign a coordinator from the Office of Teaching and Learning to each of the named schools to provide technical assistance and work directly with the school on all work related to competency-based learning.

- » Virtual meetings with other schools around the country who have successfully implemented competency-based learning.
- » If conditions permit, then a team from each school will visit a high school that is successfully implementing competency-based learning.
- » Begin to gather data as schools begin the implementation of competency-based learning.

2. 2021-2022 Empowerment Academies (Which encompass all areas of STEM and is a WVDE and Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) Collaboration) Supported by SREB’s Key Practices for Improvement

A second application for an Innovation in Education designation is for Empowerment Academy Schools and Districts.

Empowerment Academies address the following protocols:

- » Workplace Environment
- » Authentic Learning (Includes Competency Based Learning)
- » Entrepreneurial Mindset
- » Supportive Structures

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County	High Schools
Calhoun	ALL
Monroe	Peterstown Middle School
Nicholas	ALL
Upshur	ALL

Empowerment Academy Districts and Schools allow classrooms to become student “workplaces” to develop skills and dispositions needed in the world of work. Empowerment Academies will use visioning and project-based learning planning processes to determine the standards- and data-based priorities for learning at each grade level, make connections to community industry leaders as partners, and plan real project experiences for students that cross curriculum boundaries. Curricular planning for this year will include:

- » Coaching to understand, plan, and implement workplace and career infused project-based learning,
- » Performance tasks, scaffolding, and assessment in content and skills,
- » Involving students in monitoring their own learning progress and building evidence of growth,
- » Integrating curriculum by intentionally building a plan that identified the most aligned standards across the content areas,
- » Choosing materials that encourage and facilitate inquiry,
- » Using the Four Disciplines of execution (4DX, <https://www.franklincovey.com/the-4-disciplines/#4Disciplines>) goal setting methodology to move curricular needs and adaption by aligning strategies across teams and schools.