K12 Magnet in Fairbanks

A magnet school that is student centered.

Community input: 10 meetings between June and November, 72% open rate on emails, sent weekly from August to December. See agendas for Big Ideas Meeting, Defining Concepts, and Building the Instructional Model. Also see Initial board presentation from April 2018.

Core Values:

- Family first education—the school recognizes that the primary responsibility for education lies with parents, and this school works in support of that. Home centered, school supported.
- Individualized Learning Plans for every student—Each family will meet with the school to determine the priorities they have for the student learning.
- Competency—Students will progress through material, where appropriate as they master foundational skills. Assessments will be varied and appropriate to the task at hand. AIMSweb for example is good for understanding fluency of reading skills, but not comprehension. Comprehension can be measured through oral conversation, tests, writing, or other areas of interest.
- Diversity—The school will reflect the diversity of the greater Fairbanks community and will work to ensure that cultural appreciation is a part of the daily fabric of the school.

Instructional Model:

- Individualized—As each student will have an individualized learning plan, the process and methods for determining what children learn will vary by student.
- Student Driven—Most of the learning will be student-driven, though there is a place for teacher driven learning on occasion.
- Social Emotional Learning—There will be a large focus on social-emotional learning to support students and prevent risky behaviors. This will be embedded throughout the day.
- Project and Design Driven—Students will spend a lot of time engaged in real-world design problems to make improvements to the community around them using the design-thinking process.
- Multi-age classrooms—Students will be grouped as appropriate, which will sometimes mean age-based groups, and sometimes interest-based groups, and sometimes ability-based groups.

How do we know the school is working?

- Regular satisfaction surveys with parents and students
- Data from students’ individualized learning plans
- Data from district assessments (AIMSweb, MAP, PEAKS)

Next Steps:

- School board approval to continue planning - YouTube Video at the end.
- Plan details of instructional model
- Plan details of assessment practices—how will we know the school works for families?
- Plan faculty needs and structures
- Plan Facilities
- Define lots of terms, because everything speaks.