Creating Proficiency-Based Transcripts

Baxter Academy for Science and Technology

Today's Presentation

What does a transcript tell you?

Our Journey & Strategy

BA Transcript

Making Meaning Protocol

Reflection

Next Steps

Discussion

Kate Driver
Nathaniel Edmunds

What does a transcript tell you?
Who are we?

- New public charter school
- Founded in 2013
- First Graduating Class
- Proficiency-Based & Project Based
- 320 students, 66 towns
Proficiency-Based or Standards-Referenced?

- Maine Legislation - LD 1422
- 1-4 and 4i
- Standards linked to classes ➞ Grades linked to classes
- Can a 9th grader get a 4?

Year 1 & 2 Grading

New Grading Scale

- Beyond Assessment (BA)
- Excelling (EX)
- Advancing (AD)
- Graduation Benchmark (GB)
- Progressing (PR)
- Entering (EN)
- No Evidence (NE)
Year 3 Grading

Graduation Standards

**Humanities**
- Reading
- Writing
- Research
- Speaking & Listening
- Civics & Government
- Economics
- Historical Context

**Mathematics**
- Algebra & Functions
- Geometry
- Statistics & Probability
- Number & Quantity

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### Year 3 Grading

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course/Teacher</th>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Term</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>T1</td>
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<tr>
<td>312C: Transformational Geometry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rekhi, Shyam</td>
<td>Sciences &amp; Math Practice</td>
<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rekhi</td>
<td>Number &amp; Quantity</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Section dates: 10/5/2019 - 10/19/2019</td>
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| 112C: Family & Consumer Sciences | Sciences & Math Practice | X   |
| Rekhi, David   | Family & Consumer Sciences | X   |
|                | Section dates: 11/5/2019 - 11/19/2019 |

| 213C: Life Sci | Reading | X |
| Oppenheim, Heather |          |    |
| Rekhi, David | Writing | X |
| Oppenheim, Heather |      |    |
|                | Opinion & Listening | X |
| Rekhi, David | Opinion & Listening | X |
|                | Section dates: 5/5/2019 - 5/19/2019 |

| 432C: Waves & Mechanics | Sciences & Math Practice | X   |
| Rekhi, David   | Waves & Mechanics       | X   |
|                | Section dates: 8/5/2019 - 8/19/2019 |
Graduation Standards

### Science
- Forces & Motion
- Heredity & Evolution
- Matter & Energy
- Planetary Science

### World Language
- Interpersonal Communication
- Interpretive Communication
- Presentational Communication

### Design
- Define Problems
- Develop Solutions
- Analyze & Optimize Solutions
- Aesthetics & Meaning
- Performing & Producing in a Discipline
Graduation Standards

Wellness

Decision-Making & Goal Setting

Physical Fitness Activities & Knowledge

Year 3 Grading

Advantages

- Growth in skills from class to class or year to year
- May tell you more than a “3”
- Not tied to a course (relative)
Indicators

Each Graduation Standards is made up of indicators. Indicators are currently used to grade assignments and provide feedback to parents and students regarding progress in the course.

Above Target (AT)
On Target (OT)
Below Target (BT)

Grading on an Indicator

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category / Geometry</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Assigned Date</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Turned In</th>
<th>Comments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Circles</td>
<td>10/05/2015</td>
<td>10/06/2015</td>
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<td>Transformations C2Y</td>
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<td>11/02/2015</td>
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<td>11/25/2015</td>
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Proficiency-Based Learning Simplified

A Great School/Program Learning Model

Graduation Requirement Reporting Method Assessment Method
YES Transcript and Report Cards Grade-Certifiers: Course Requirements for Graduation are met.
YES Performance Indicators: Performance is demonstrated through student performance on state and national exams.
NO Progress Reports: Teacher documentation of student learning and evidence of student progress.
NO Teacher Feedback: Student learning is assessed through formative and summative feedback.
Sample Documents

Critique

- Growth over time on Graduation Standards?
- Final Transcript has Graduation Standard Performance Summary, but what about fall senior year transcripts?
- Where did the Graduation Standard Performance Summary come from?
- What does a 3.5 in English 9 mean vs. a 3.5 in English 10?
So, what does a BA transcript look like?

Demographic Info & GPA

Work on student-designed, student-driven projects comprises twenty percent of the Baxter Academy school week. Through our unique Flex Friday program, students create innovative and often surprising projects.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>2016-2017</th>
<th>2017-2018</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Math</strong></td>
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<td><strong>History</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>US History</td>
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</table>

Graph
Courses and Standards

Making Meaning

In table groups...

Follow provided NSRF Protocol.

Report Out

- Observations
  - What do you see?
  - What do you know about this student?
- Questions
- Significance
Data and Evidence

- Spoke to every college that our seniors applied to
  - Common Questions
- College Acceptances
- Merit Scholarships

Reflection

What worked well?

- Calling schools to talk about proficiency-based education
- Clean graph, easy to understand
- GPA on a 4.0 Scale
- In keeping with our beliefs about proficiency-based education and grading

What were our struggles?

- Questions about recalculating GPAs
- Questions regarding “passing” or “failing”
- Representing courses taken outside of our school on our graph (we didn’t)
- Labor-intensive process
- "Page 1" key
Reflection

Challenges

- Student Information System
- Public Relations with Students and Families
- Transfer Students (both in and out of BA)

Next Steps

2016-2017 Redesign with the following questions in mind:

➔ How do we highlight a student’s chosen path through our curriculum?
➔ How do we distinguish students who have chosen a particularly challenging course of study?

➔ How do we help colleges and universities understand that the scale is truly an absolute scale, not tied to a course or year?
➔ How can we redesign page 1 to make the interpretation more effective?
Next Steps

2016-2017 Redesign with the following questions in mind:

➔ How do we make our internal process easier?
➔ How do we make sure we’re not reinventing the wheel?

Discussion

Questions & Comments