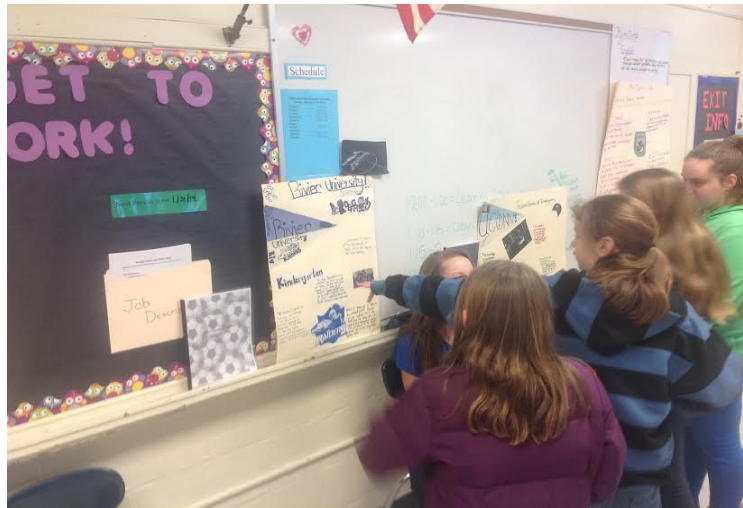


Sparking Student Learning Through The Creative Use Of Time And Space

Learning Studios and Summer Academies



Introductions

Rick Anthony- Physical Education Teacher

- BS Sports Medicine, Keene State College, 1987
- MA Sports Management, American Public University, 2015
- 30 years Teaching
- 22 years at Pittsfield

Chris Davitt- Middle School English Teacher

- BA English, Keene State College, 2008
- 8 years Teaching
- 5 years at Pittsfield

Pittsfield Middle High School Demographics

A group of graduates in blue gowns and caps are celebrating, with many caps in the air. They are standing in front of a brick school building with a white gable roof. The building has a logo on the gable that says "PITTSFIELD" and features a bear. The sky is overcast.

Location- Pittsfield, New Hampshire (Merrimack County)

Town Population- 4,200

School Population- Middle School-91 High School -162

Graduation 2015

Learning Studios



Pittsfield Middle High School: Learning Studios

- NCTAF Conference in 2011: National Commission on Teaching and America's Future
 - Interdisciplinary
 - Project Based
 - Community
 - Exhibition
- Middle School Interdisciplinary Project, Spring 2012
- Learning Studios Development at PMHS
- Time and Space
 - Flexible Schedule Team: Spring 2013

Making Learning Studios Fit PMHS

- Student Engagement
- **Rigor**
- Investigation
- Collaborative Partnerships (between students and local professionals)
- Interdisciplinary Work
- Teams of Teachers (across the curriculum)
- **Project-based Learning**
- Benefit to the Community
- **Exhibition of Learning**
- **Students are Driving Force**

Selling Learning Studios to the School Community

- How did we get teachers to buy into teaching a Learning Studio?
 - Presentation to the staff.
 - Eleven proposals submitted to the principal on the last day of school
- How did we get the School Board to approve Learning Studios?
 - School Board Presentation
 - Learning Studios would be offered in subjects that teachers and students are passionate about.
 - There are a variety of opportunities in school and community for Learning Studios.
 - Students have the opportunity to create their own Learning Studio.

Student Personalization

- Small student to teacher ratio
- Students in collaboration with teachers are encouraged to develop their own Learning Studios based on their interest and expertise.
 - Hip-Hop Dance
 - Engineer-it
 - Sports Management and Finance
- Students are the driving force of the Learning Studio.
- Learning Studio Selection
 - Students get to choose their Learning Studios from a list of choices..

Implementation

1st year Highlights:

- Middle school- 2 hours
- Mt. Rushmore of Sports/ PMHS Athletic Hall of Fame
- Exhibition

2nd Year Highlights:

- Learning Studio- 12:45-1:45
- Enrichment/ Credit
- Students created their own Learning Studios

3rd Year Highlights

- Learning Studios include students from 7th-12th grade
- Mid-Year Showcase

Products

- Learning Studio Exhibition
- End of The Year Showcase
 - Change in Schedule
- Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony
 - Seeing a Learning Studio come to fruition



Shared Leadership

Students:

- Finding an area or subject that they are interested in
- Create their own Learning Studios
- Collaborating with teachers

Teachers:

- Collaboration with students or other teachers
- Offering the Learning Studios for Credit/ Enrichment
- Participating in an area outside of their comfort zone

Making Learning Studios Work at Your School

- What is important to your school?
- Where does this fit into your schedule?
- How can you “sell” this to your school community?

Summer Academies



Summer Academy

- History
 - Information originated from a conference
 - Team of teachers visited high schools in upstate New York
- Funding
 - Private Donations
 - District Funds
 - Grant Funds
- Design Team
 - Community Partners
 - Anywhere/ Anytime Learning
 - Program that would make students excited

Shared Leadership

- Design and implementation of Summer Academies
 - Faculty
 - Administration
 - Community Members

Program Set-Up

- Administrator
- Template
- Competitive Processes

Community Involvement

- Camp Graylag
- Local Experts
- Community members donated materials

Implementation

- 1st Year
 - Three Summer Academies offered
 - 30+ students participated

- 2nd Year
 - Three Summer Academies offered

Student Personalization

2015 Summer Academies:

- Create Your Own Summer Adventure In Pittsfield
- Behind The Scenes
- Environmental Leadership

Products

- Mini Showcases

Reflection/ Review

- Student/ Parent/ Staff

- Program Review

Making Summer Academies Work At Your School

- What programs are already offered during the summer?
- Is there a need for Summer Academies?
- How can you “sell” this to your school community?