LEARNING REIMAGINED
CREATING A MODERN LEARNING EXPERIENCE

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF UNIVERSITY CITY
Transform the Life of Every Student Every Day!
Learning Reimagined involves three core pillars that humanize, personalize and problematize learning. Using achievement data along with insight and feedback from all stakeholder groups, our education teams are focusing on professional learning, curriculum development, instructional design and community partnerships. Academic achievement grows from the total classroom experience. The Learning Reimagined strategies and concepts outlined below open the door to a new way of teaching and learning that brings new energy, connections and possibilities to our teachers, students and community.

**THREE CORE PILLARS**

**HUMANIZE**
- Value and affirm each student’s unique brilliance and help each reach his/her fullest human potential.
- Understand that our students are more than test scores.
- View students holistically and support them academically and socio-emotionally.
- Coordinate events and activities that help establish connections with the world outside of school.
- Understand that healthy student-teacher relationships are crucial to holistic student growth.
- Allow students more voice and choice in academic settings.
- Promote the power and importance of the relationship between home and school.
- Affirm that District teachers and staff are talented, experienced, honorable and committed human beings and treat them with respect and dignity.
- Reinforce commitment to principles of equity, access, justice, restorative practices and respect for differences.
- Broaden social and team building skills by offering extracurricular education in support of all disciplines.

**PERSONALIZE**
- Consider individual learning styles, interests, strengths and personal experiences to custom fit learning.
- Provide specific academic pathways that lead to quality college and career choices.
- Provide high-quality science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) learning opportunities to all students.
- Leverage technology to help each student learn at his/her pace.
- Provide one-on-one counseling, coaching, tutoring and mentoring to ensure each student’s success.
- Encourage leadership roles through participation of special interest activities.
- Provide opportunities for students to explore and thrive in a broad range of arts, humanities and science offerings.
- Create unique classroom spaces and team configurations that inspire creativity, ingenuity and collaboration.

**PROBLEMATIZE**
- Provide opportunities and programs that encourage students to problem-solve, create, design, debate, advocate, improve, perform and challenge.
- Provide rigorous, memorable learning experiences that stimulate innovation and creativity and connect students to the world outside of the classroom.
- Engage students in the exploration of social issues relative to diversity, equity, and inclusiveness.
- Encourage students to challenge all forms of prejudice and discrimination.
The School District of University City has adopted an innovative, strategic and transformational approach to empowering students called, Learning Reimagined. This program draws upon research and best practices from around the country and is designed to support a variety of learning experiences that lead students to problem-solve, create, design, build, advocate, communicate and engage with the world outside the classroom.

METHODS:

- Develop programming partnerships with local organizations
- Provide a full spectrum of fine arts classes including music, art, dance and drama
- Promote STEM-based (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) classes and extracurriculars
- Support athletics and clubs for a variety of student talents and interests
- Coordinate projects and field trips that tackle real-world problems and encourage solutions
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

EARLY CHILDHOOD – 5TH GRADE

In elementary school, the Learning Reimagined approach teaches students that school is a special place where:

• You learn and grow every day
• Learning is fun!
• Teachers and staff help with the hard stuff
• You work and play with friends and make new ones
• There is plenty of time and space to be creative
• Hard work helps make you better

“To be successful in our constantly changing world, students must build the skills to respond to, engage with, and solve authentic problems. Learning Reimagined fosters an educational environment where teachers and students can work together to build these skills.”

- Stephanie Appel, 5th Grade Teacher

MIDDLE SCHOOL

6TH GRADE – 8TH GRADE

At Brittany Woods Middle School, the Learning Reimagined approach:

• Creates an active, engaging learning environment
• Includes carefully crafted units of study that support learning
• Offers an opportunity to learn through experiences
• Builds a deeper understanding of content that allows students to retain, transfer and apply information
• Promotes a caring and personalized learning environment
• Creates opportunities for more student choice in all phases of learning

"Learning Reimagined really looks deeply at the human side of learning. We have to touch their hearts and their heads to build kids that are college, career, and life ready."

- Christina Grove, Middle School Instructor
At University City High School, the Learning Reimagined approach:

- Creates fresh energy for the high school experience
- Makes learning meaningful and real for each student
- Supports each student as a person while working to meet all of his/her needs
- Prepares students for job opportunities in traditional and emerging fields
- Includes guidance, internships, connections and a portfolio of experiences needed for college admission or career readiness
- Springboards students into a collaborative learning environment supported by teachers who are empowered, engaged and excited about where we go from here
- Challenges students to think and dream “big”

“Learning Reimagined allows teachers the freedom to be innovative and creative with our students. Students want an active classroom that allows for them to explore ideas and solve real problems.”

- Matthew Tuths, High School Latin Instructor

Additional Information on Pillar Concepts

**Humanize:** "Researchers have documented the importance of caring teacher-student and student-student relationships in fostering students’ commitment to school and in promoting academic success.”
www.edutopia.org/sel-research-learning-outcomes

**Personalize:** Research shows "differentiated instruction can enable students with a wide range of abilities - from gifted students to those with mild or even severe disabilities - to receive an appropriate education in inclusive classrooms.”

**Problematize:** "Studies have proven that when implemented well, project-based learning (PBL) can increase retention of content and improve students’ attitudes towards learning, among other benefits.”
www.edutopia.org/pbl-research-learning-outcomes
OUR MISSION
Transform the life of every student every day.

OUR VALUES
1. Stand accountable for student learning and achievement
2. Demonstrate integrity by operating with high ethical standards
3. Promote collaboration that leads to innovation
4. Engage in open communication with all stakeholders

OUR VISION
In the School District of University City, all students graduate college and career ready.

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