

IUFSD's reputation built on years of providing a liberal education in teacher-centered classrooms

IUFSD's new philosophy

Teacher-centered

Learner-centered

	Liberal education College prep Direct instruction	"21 st century skills" "Habits of the mind" Discovery, inquiry, problem-based learning...
What they say	"If the student hasn't learned, the teacher hasn't taught" -Siegfried Engelmann	"[I]t is possible for students to construct for themselves the mathematical practices that, historically, took several thousand years to evolve." - Cobb & Yackel
The teacher is...	...a "sage on the stage"	...a "guide on the side"
Goal of schooling	Knowledge	"Learning experiences"
Who is responsible for student learning?	Teachers & administrators	Students & parents: students teach themselves & peers Parents pay tutors to provide direct instruction at home
What you see in the classroom	Whole-class instruction 80/20: No more than 20% of class-time spent in pairs and pods	Group learning & "mini-lessons" Teacher circulates the room, working w/selected students one on one
Social geography	Students face teacher	Students face each other
Technology	Chalk & chalkboard; whiteboard; paper & pencil; projector; SmartBoards; clickers	Mobile devices: tablets, smart phones, Chromebooks, etc.
What students read	Classics, cover to cover	Contemporary novels; op-eds found on Google; nonfiction excerpts
Assigned reading?	Yes Whole-class discussion of shared books	No Students choose their own books Limited or no whole-class discussion
Syntax and punctuation of the sentence	Directly taught and practiced until mastered	No: grammar should be "caught not taught"
Class composition	Homogeneous grouping (not tracking) so all students can progress as quickly as possible; efficiency valued	Heterogeneous grouping Learning speed & acceleration considered unimportant
Class materials	Books; textbooks	Chromebooks; Google; Xeroxed and stapled packets
What is taught	Liberal education: the disciplines	"21 st century skills"; "habits of the mind"
Attitude toward practice and memorization	"How do you get to Carnegie Hall?" ("Practice, practice, practice")	"Drill and kill" (Practice & drill considered harsh)
Technology is used to	Make teacher's job easier & more efficient	Change the way teachers teach from direct instruction to self-teaching
Underlying philosophy	Cognitive science; behaviorism	"Radical constructivism"