



K-6

Skyline

ISSUE #3, November 2021

1

Team XQ (2021) mentions that the purpose of student centered learning is to enhance the student experience throughout the learning process. The shift during COVID to remote learning made personalized instruction even more important, as motivation waned.

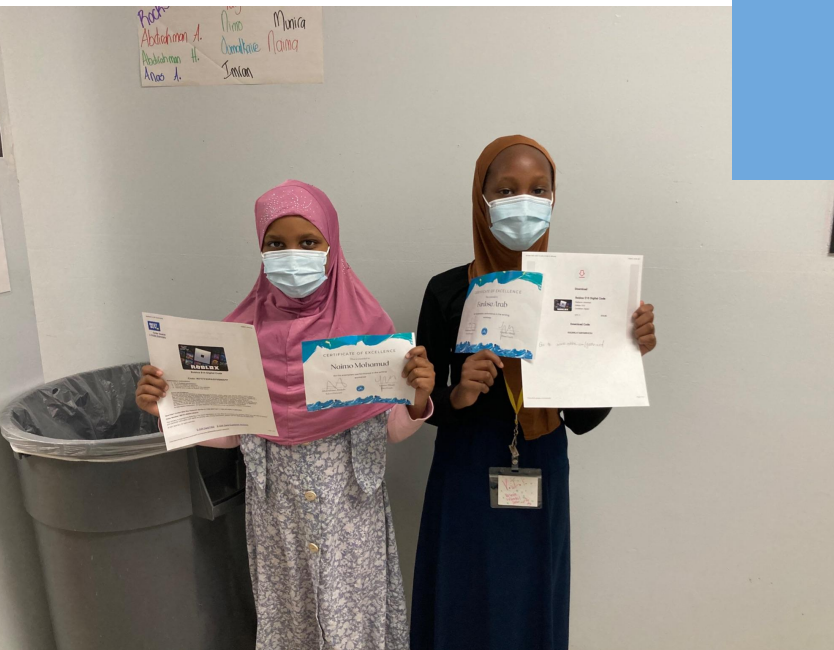
2

The student centered approach is a large shift from the traditional model of teaching. There are split opinions from educators regarding the shift from traditional to student centered teaching. Some educators felt empowered by the idea of change while others felt that a switch from traditional learning stripped them of their teaching identities.

3

Leaders drive the pedagogical practices of a school and their ability to facilitate staff buy-in is critical for the process. Without a strong vision for student centered learning along with leadership holding staff accountable, this model will not be used to fruition and the benefits will not be as profound. The best schools using this method live and breathe the pedagogical practices that make it work.

Student Centered Learning



Students are at the center of the learning process at Skyline Math & Science Academy. The focus of all lessons, according to best practices, is on students and their needs. Skyline focuses on the passions of students to drive learning.



Leadership Message

Abdirahman Abdulle
Executive Director of Skyline Math & Science Academy

Dear Teachers and Staff Members,

I hope you have had a great Thanksgiving weekend. And I hope that you come back with new energy, and momentum.

I was visiting classrooms last week and I have seen profound learning happening in the classrooms. I was admired by the tremendous work of our teachers. Again, thanks for your hard work.

With the kind of student population that we have in our school, we have extra responsibility to meet their needs academically, socially and emotionally. The reason why parents are coming to our school is because they are expecting these needs to be met. We are a community school and as such we need to prioritise serving the needs of our students and families.

Time is the most important asset that we have. Time flies so fast and sometimes, we need to stop, comprehend and become reflective practitioners. This will help us understand our stakeholders, their goals and our ultimate objectives.

Incorporate Personalized Learning:

As you might have already known, every student learns at a different pace because the foundations for each student is different. We need to come up with innovative efforts to accomplish equal outcome results for our students. This is a daunting task but if we implement collaborative successful strategies all across, I am sure, we can accomplish tangible outcomes for all of our learners.

In addition, we have great technology resources in our school. We want to implement a 1:1 learning model in our school. It has so many benefits especially to our student population. We want personalized/individualized learning to happen for all of our students. We have 1:1 platforms such as Mobymax, A-Z Learning and Yup. While utilizing the online platforms, we need to keep in mind that online learning platforms shouldn't never replace direct instructions at all.

Curriculum and Supplemental Materials:

As a school, we have purchased curriculums and supplemental materials to make sure we can deliver the desired results for our students. I am expecting you to use the curriculum fidelity. I would like to see the curriculum and supplemental materials being used in the classrooms

Cheers,

Abdirahman Abdulle



Zoom instruction from Experts

Students at Skyline are meeting with mentors from all over the world who have the skills and passion necessary to close achievement gaps. Through collaboration and intervention prowess, mentors work with students to find a love of learning while gaining necessary academic skills. The joy students exhibit in these sessions is incredible! We have students as young as kindergarten learning to communicate across cultures via technology.



Create & Learn

Ms. Jade's second grade class displays immense coding potential in their Scratch designs. We are excited to see what other great projects are created this year!



Skyline students created the art above with mentorship from Stephen Ngang, owner of Nice Guys Corporation. Stephen, a professional photographer, taught students how to make letters using photography and photoshop. Stephen has been an amazing mentor to Skyline students and continues to mentor students in the after-school program at the school.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS



Students are displaying their computer science abilities in amazing ways! Throughout the usage of Scratch, students are learning to use various coding scripts to design AI projects that utilize machine learning. How awesome!



ACADEMICS

Nice Guys Corporation is inspiring Skyline students to be photographers and the designers of tomorrow. Stephen Ngang has been running after-school photography classes to teach students about entrepreneurship and the beauty within photos. This has been the highlight of many students' days and he is greatly valued!

Drawing

Students display immense creative abilities in drawing and design. Through collaboration with Two Shrews Press, we hope to see various students' work highlighted due to the talent and high quality!





Higher Education Recap

St. Thomas Professor, Dr. Jan Frank, has a field placement class at Skyline. The field placement allows pre-service teachers to gain classroom experiences.

St. Thomas plans to attend Skyline classes again in the Spring for another field placement. This field placement provides college students with elementary classroom experiences along with the ability to learn about various cultures. The students grade papers, read one on one, assist in classrooms, and even lead groups!

Thank you to the College of Teacher Education for your support of Skyline Math & Science Academy!



Upcoming events:

- Engineering Class (January 2022)
- Tutoring (during school)
- Winter Break

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