UNIVERSAL DESIGN FOR LEARNING

PILOT GROUP UPDATE

Every Child Every Day

East Hartford Public Schools

AGENDA

- **What is UDL?**
- **Why UDL?**
- **What is the pathway to UDL?**
- **What does UDL look like in the classroom?**
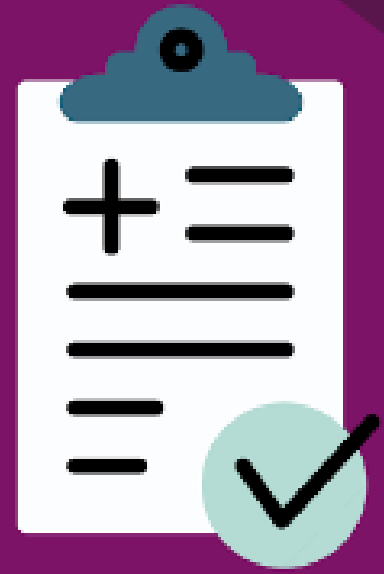- **What are the next steps?**

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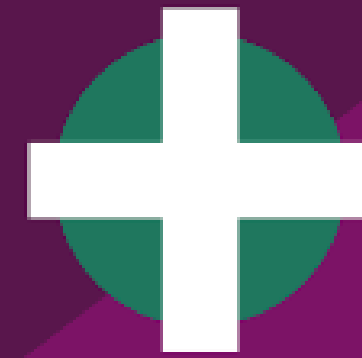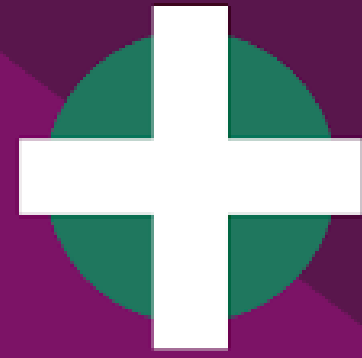# WHAT IS UDL?

An educational framework
- Based on research on brain science and learning
- Focused on maintaining high academic expectations for students
- Allows educators to proactively plan for barriers in their lesson design
- Gives students voice and choice in the learning,
- Challenges and supports all students, regardless of their differences

Standards + Student Voice + Flexibility = UDL

UDL

IS NOT

UP TO FIVE WAYS THAT STUDENTS CAN DEMONSTARTE MASTERY OF A STANDARD

UNLIMITED CHOICE ON ALL ASSIGNMENTS AND TESTS

SCAFFOLDS AVAILABLE TO ALL LEARNERS

LIMITED TO THE HUMANITIES

APPLICABLE IN ALL DISCIPLINES

INDIVIDUALIZED FOR EVERY CHILD

ALIGNED TO MASTERY OF GRADE LEVEL STANDARDS

A LOWERING OF EXPECTATIONS OR GRADE LEVEL STANDARDS

UDL FRAMEWORK

A framework is a set of principles, or beliefs and values, that guide our work. A UDL Practitioner **believes:**

Students don't have to do the same things at the same time. Variability is the rule, not the exception.

All students can work toward the same firm goals and grade-level standards.

All students will become expert learners if barriers are removed.

WHY UDL?

Traditional Teaching	Differentiated Instruction	UDL
Static	Reactive	Proactive
Evaluates curriculum	Evaluates students	Evaluates environment, classroom, culture
Follows Script	Cause/Effect	Intentional
Teaches lesson and follows unit as designed	Retrofits instruction by providing accommodations	Designs instruction prior to arrival of students
Focuses on the "average" student	Focuses on individual ability	Focuses on variability
Ignores barriers	*Works around barriers*	*Removes barriers*

- Start with your standards & objectives
- Backward design
  - What do you want students to be able to master at the end of the lesson and what is acceptance evidence of that?
- Incorporate UDL principles
  - **Engagement**: How can I engage all students in my class?
  - **Representation**: How can I present information in ways that reach all learners?
  - **Action & Expression**: How can I offer purposeful options for students to show what they know?
- Student Feedback
  - Check in with your students to see what worked & didn't and make adjustments
- Grow from your mistakes!

Student-Centered Learning

Positive Relationships — Students have relationships with adults and peers who care about, believe in, and hold them to high expectations

Foundational Needs Met — Students' physical, psychological, and safety needs are met

Positive Identity — Students are fully embraced for who they are and develop a sense of positive identity and belonging

Student Ownership & Agency — Students have freedom to exercise choice in pursuing interests, with teachers serving as guides and facilitators

Real-World Relevant — Students solve real-world problems and learn skills they will use in their own lives

Competency-Based — Students advance by mastering clearly defined learning objectives, and receive support as needed

Anytime, Anywhere — Students learn in the community, at internships, on weekends, during extracurriculars, etc.

OUR PILOT GROUP

K-5 ELEMENTARY	6-12 SECONDARY	LEADERSHIP
17	23	5

- 8 Asynchronus learning modules with feedback coaching from Novak Education
- 4 Virtual Teaching Sessions with Chris Bronke of Novak Education
- 9 Monthly in-person sessions focused on UDL Book Study
- Classroom Walkthroughs with UDL Focused feedback
- Reflection Journals that focus on impact of new practice on student learning

TIMELINE

1. **UDL DEPARTMENT LEADERSHIP TRAINING SUMMER 2021**

2. **UDL BUILDING LEADERSHIP TRAINING FALL 2021**

3. **UDL MODULES LEADERSHIP TRAINING SCHOOL YEAR 2021-22**

4. **UDL FOUNDATIONS KEYNOTE FOR ALL STAFF - RETURN TO SCHOOL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FALL 2022**

5. **UDL PILOT GROUP TRAININGS SCHOOL YEAR 2022-23**

6. **UDL DISTRICTWIDE STAFF TRAINING SCHOOL YEAR 2023-24**

RESOURCES

THESE ARE THE FOUNDATIONAL RESOURCES FOR OUR UDL LEARNING

<u>Equity By Design</u> by Mirko Chardin & Katie Novak

<u>UDL Now!</u> by Katie Novak

"If Equity is a Priority, UDL is a Must" by Katie Novak.
https://www.cultofpedagogy.com/udl-equity/