

Inquiry into the curriculum

What our data showed:

In colleges our data showed that students don't feel supported by the curriculum and the staff. Students aren't engaged within the curriculum and haven't been extended to their capabilities.

In primary and intermediate our data showed that students aren't engaging in the schools curriculum or with their passions.

Our Focus Area: The learning needs of students over all age groups in the region and how the schools are supporting their students needs.

Our dream and what we ask from you

Overall aim

In intermediate schools we plan to form passion groups. Within these groups students can learn skills and acquire knowledge to help them start a journey towards being able to choose a topical program in years 9 and 10. This will lead to students being able to create their own individualized learning program in senior college.

What we are asking from you:

- We ask that you listen to our presentation that we have just spent so long working towards with an open mind.
- That you take on our ideas and help us refine them for the better
- You help us implement them into the appropriate schools curriculum for the sake of your students, their education and future.

Intermediate school

In Intermediate Schools we would like to implement a passion program to bring like minded students together. This way students have the chance to figure out what they are passionate about while being educated and engaging in their learning and the environment which they are in.

Year 7 and 8s from all different schools in Masterton will have the chance to identify their passions and be given the opportunity to develop their skills in this area. These groups will meet regularly and go on excursions around the Wairarapa to enrich their real world knowledge about one of their passions. This knowledge and the skills learnt then can be brought back into the classroom, which will result the students engaging in their learning more because it is partially focused around their interests and passions. This program will allow them to work with students from different schools who share the same passions and interests, helping build relationships and life skills in the process which will benefit them throughout their lives. Over the course of their time at school we see students being given the opportunity to experience many different careers and give some diversity to their current opportunities.

Junior College

Feeding on from the passions program that is being implemented into intermediate schools, we plan to implement a topical learning program into years 9 and 10 to help grow these passions and extending students who are currently being restricted while supporting those who need it. The aim of this, is to begin to support students more and allow them some freedom over their own learning.

PRACTICE FOR PASSION - STEPS

After discovering your passion, DETERMINE the demand for acquiring the skills, tools and knowledge for your chosen field of interest.

HOW ? - Apart from interests being incorporated onto core subjects, at least 1 or 2 periods throughout the week, we invest those hours to enhance and sharpen our skills and knowledge. Also, associating with other students who are with and for that particular passion through this PASSION INSTITUTION.

To give you an idea, JOURNALISM. As a way to practice this passion, running a school newspaper is a way to start, apart from courses and opportunities made by higher uppers (principals, careers adviser, etc).

Senior college

We have created a plan that aims to incorporate passions and specialised learning throughout all the levels of school.

In senior college we are taking the passions that students have gained in intermediate and then developed in junior college and giving the students their own agency to create their own individualized curriculum for the school year.

That idea is this should give the ability for students to extend their own learning

Senior college:

What this will look like when it is implemented into schools:

At the beginning of each year students will have the choice of selecting their own standards for the year. This will be done with the influence of teachers, student advisors and the achievement standard criteria. An example of said standards would be having to have a minimum number of internal and external standards with a certain amount of credits available to achieve. Implementing this into the school will give senior students more agency over their own learning while giving them the ability to be extended or supported in areas of need. Having students select their own standards gives the ability to take a range of standards over multiple subjects which they may possibly be unable to take currently. It also gives the ability for students to choose standards that are more relevant to the career path they wish to go down, while still being able to complete the relevant standards for NCEA etc...