DEEPER LEARNING

CONTEXT

Student surveys reveal that students feel greater disengagement as their academic career progresses (Mehta & Fine, 2019). Additionally, they report little to no connection to the work they are doing or the content they are expected to learn. Deeper Learning has the potential to address this lack of engagement and create a collaborative community where every individual's experience and knowledge is brought to bear on compelling, time-worthy tasks (Noguera et al, 2014; Tovani & Birr Moje, 2017).

WHAT IS DEEPER LEARNING?

Deeper Learning occurs at the junction of mastery, identity, and creativity (Mehta & Fine, 2019). At this intersection, students expand their knowledge and skills, feel connected to what they are learning/doing, and have the chance to transform their learning into something tangible. Deeper Learning assumes an apprenticeship model of teaching and learning where instructors gradually release their students into increasingly expert practice over a transmission-based system (Tovani & Birr Moje, 2017). Deeper learning calls on teachers to carefully cultivate stimulating environments where students are: unafraid to take intellectual risks, sustained through challenge by their connection to the work, buoyed by their mentor's expertise and guidance.

Initial findings suggest deeper learning may lead to improved academic achievement, college readiness and retention, engagement, self-efficacy, and interpersonal skills—regardless of demographics. (Martinez and McGrath, 2016, Rickles et. al, 2019, Agger and Koenka, 2019).

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

This professional learning series will focus on building educators' capacity to implement Deeper Learning practices through the lens of the instructional core—the dynamic relationship between students, teachers, and content (City et al., 2009).

Educators will first engage in immersive, authentic learning experiences that mirror the deeper learning environments they will create for students. Through this process, teachers will refine their ability to design meaningful, standards-aligned learning activities and foster classrooms where students collaborate, take intellectual risks, and solve real-world problems connected to their community.

Sample Session Topics:
- » Engaging Multiple Disciplines for Deeper Learning
- » Building Dream Teams: Building a Culture of Collaborative Inquiry
- » Project Management
- » Permeable Walls: Enriching Community Partnerships