



Personalized Learning at Austin Road Elementary



In the spring of last year, Austin Road Elementary applied and was accepted to join Henry County's 2020 Vision to ensure all schools transition to personalized learning schools. Last spring, several classes began implementing these practices during their math classes. This year all classes will implement personalized learning practices in math.

The goal of personalized learning at Austin Road Elementary is to better meet the needs of all students and empower them to direct their own learning. They will be doing this in collaboration with their teachers. Examples of these educational practices are teacher/student goal setting, data interpretation, having a choice in how they practice specific skills, and having a voice in how they show mastery of a skill or standard. This will make learning relevant for students through the use of 21st Century skills.

The teachers and students have already seen benefits of implementing these personalized learning practices in their classrooms. They have seen greater collaboration between teachers and students and between students and their peers. Time on task has increased reducing off task behavior. Increased student motivation has been noticed due to students taking real ownership and having the ability to make decisions about their work.

We will continually seek formal and informal teacher, student, and parent feedback during this process. Your opinion matters! Talk with your child about what they are learning.

We are excited about this personalized learning journey, and we hope you share in our excitement. If you would like to learn more about personalized learning at Austin Road Elementary or would like to see it in action, there are several ways to get involved.

- Talk to Mr. Herman (Personalized Learning Lead Teacher)
- Schedule a visit to see personalized learning in action
- Join our parent advisory team
- Participate in parent surveys and share your input
- Visit the ARE website for updated information
- Talk with your child and your child's teacher about how personalized learning is changing how they learn at school

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Why Shift To Personalized Learning?

- Better prepare increasingly diverse student body for college, career and life success
- Move from “good enough” to “exceptional”
- People learn in different ways (Pace, Place, Path, People)
- Traditional model is no longer sufficient
- Job Force Ready skills are lacking for graduates
- Build on a strong foundation of great instructional practice
- Focus on metrics beyond standardized tests

PERSONALIZED LEARNING

Is....	Is NOT...
A Philosophy	A Program
Based on research and best instructional practices	Kids only teaching themselves
More small group instruction based on kids needs	One-size-fits-all
Enabled by technology	A plan to replace teachers with computers
Flexible pacing with guardrails	Kids move at any pace (or no pace)
More rigorous expectations (DOK 3 or 4)	Kids choosing the “easiest” assignment available