

Competency-Based Learning

Competency-based education challenges us to think about how students develop increasing levels of knowledge and skill as they take on increasingly demanding work.

Step 1 – Research

Review three characteristics of competency-based education identified in *Making Mastery Work*:

1. Students progress at their own pace.
2. Students graduate upon demonstration of mastery of a comprehensive list of competencies.
3. Students learn from teachers who are skilled at facilitating differentiated learning environments.

Step 2 – Reflect

Share findings with your team and explore these questions:

- What insights, lessons, and practices from competency-based education seem most promising for your school model? How might you incorporate them?
- Are you ready to move entirely to a competency-based learning model? Why or why not?

Next, brainstorm specific practices you could build into your school design that reflect each of these key characteristics. Share your ideas with students, teachers, families, and others to get their perspectives.

What practices from competency-based learning will best support student growth?

Characteristics	Practice
<p>1. Students progress at their own pace</p>	<p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>
<p>2. Students graduate upon demonstration of mastery</p>	<p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>
<p>3. Students learn from teachers who are skilled at facilitating differentiated learning environments</p>	<p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>