### Digital Portfolios: Windows into the Learner's Mind

A Comprehensive Assessment System for At Risk Students

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#### Schools As Sorters-

L. Terman / Intelligence Tests

Chapman 1922

What has 100 Years of Testing done?

Identified At Risk
Populations Immigrants or
LD with Tests-no solutions

Origins are Complex-> SES, Lang, Literacy, Opportunities, Learning Disabilities



The pupil becomes an individual, American School Based Journal (1921). (R printed by permission of the Department of Special Collections and University Archives, Stanford University Libraries.)

#### **DEFINING TERMS**

What is Assessment? What is Evaluation?

(Ambert, 1991, Marshall, 1992, Harris Stefanakis, 1995, 1998)

To Assess is to Sit Beside the Learner

To Evaluate is to assess using values to Sort the

Learners

To Assess

Child Portfolios

To Evaluate
Norm Groups

**Normed Tests** 

A Comprehensive Assessment System: from Accountability to Informing Student Learning

Portfolios

Learning Accountability

Self Assessment

Informal Feedback
Content

Rubrics

State Tests

Performance-Based

Using Assessment as an Intervention for Student Learning

Learning

Informal Feedback Self Assessment Rubrics

Monthly Portfolio
Review

Portfolios At Risk Students Document Growth Make Learning Visible Track Interventions

Accountability

State Tests Identify At Risk

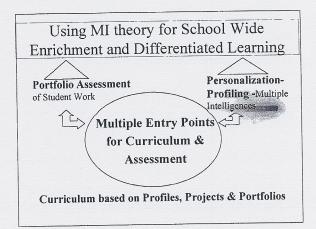
Scrutinize Lower Scores Examine Student Work Target Interventions Clarify The Purposes Of Assessment (s)

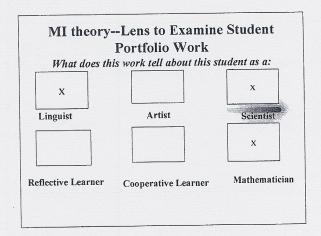
# IMPROVE STUDENT LEARNING

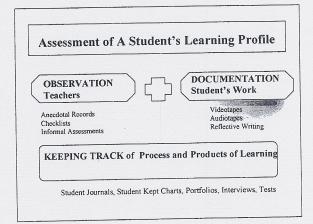
- Make learning visible to students (Seidel et al)
- Foster reflective learning which is self adjusting
- Communicate learning to families & the community.

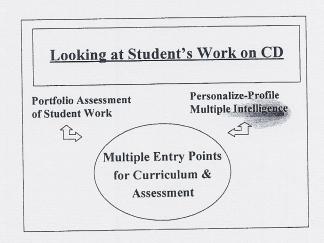
# **IMPROVING TEACHERS' TEACHING**

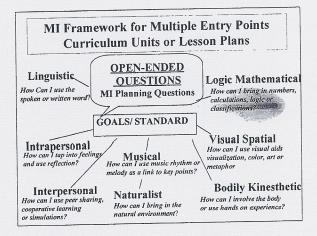
- Adjust instruction to needs of individual students
- Foster reflective teaching which informs practice
- Improving the capacity of schools to reach high standards of student achievement









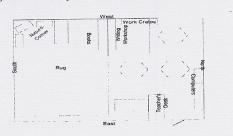


Next Steps- Elementary/Secondary

Provide students with self directed learning opportunities and independent project work so they can pursue interests in areas of study.

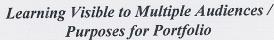
• Add activities that involve movement, music, visual arts, cooperative learning and self reflection.

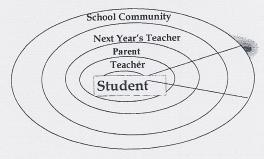
 Use strengths as a bridge to weaknesses. If a student is strong mechanically and challenged linguistically, ask her to write a book explaining how to put together a clock. CLASSROOM ENRICHMENT -WORKSHOP SETTING-MULTIPLE ENTRY POINTS TO DIFFERENTIATED LEARNING INCLUDING TECHNOLOGY, SCIENCES, ART A diagram of a redesigned First/Second Grade Classroom



# Why Consider the Whole School?

- Schools are organisms- all parts must share beliefs
- Children learn the values and practices of the whole school as a learning community
- Student progress is the concern of students, teachers, parents, and the educational community
- Each school is a unique learning community which adds a context to student work





# The Process of Building Portfolios into your Classroom

Folders

Select

Portfolios

Reflect

Pass Along Portfolio

# GETTING STARTED-PORTFOLIOS

#### 1. START SMALL, WORK TOGETHER

Talk about portfolio purposes in grade level or faculty meetings Let families know about portfolios. Enlist their help-Conference. Conduct a descriptive review using student work as evidence.

# 2. FIND TIME AS A FACULTY TO DISCUSS

Shared purposes and a school wide system for portfolios

MI in curriculum & assessment to pluralize/ personalize learning

The uses of rubrics in standard setting

How technology organizes, stores the images, and acts of learning

# Comprehension System Assessment for Learning

Learning Accountability

Accountability

Standardized Tests

Portfolios

