

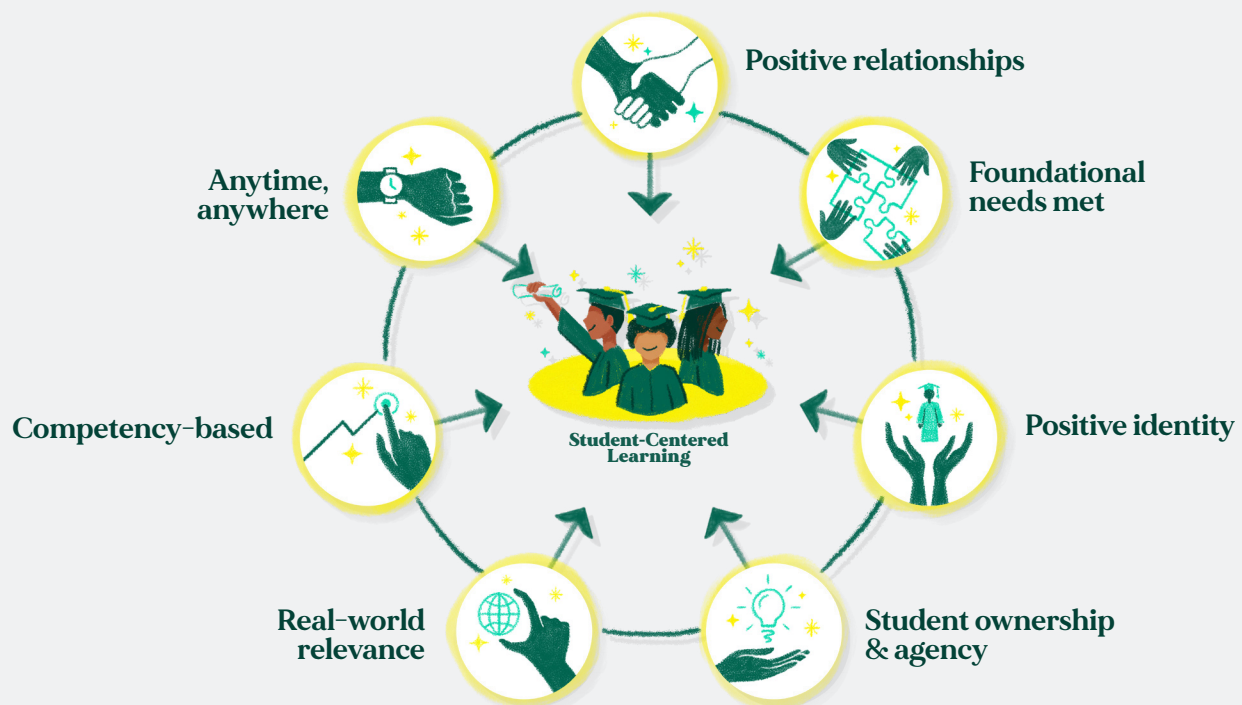


We advance **student-centered learning** for all students, by **supporting teachers** designing and leading schools, and by **advocating for policy** that catalyzes community-led innovation.

ANNUAL REPORT
2022

Our vision: equitable, student-centered learning for all.

Core to our work are **seven principles of student-centered learning**. When realized, these lead to equitable learning—designed to meet the unique needs of all students.



More at educationevolving.org/learning

Our theory of change

Learning must be more student-centered

Learning must be personalized to each student's unique assets, interests, identities, and needs—and designed with students' voices at the table. And so,

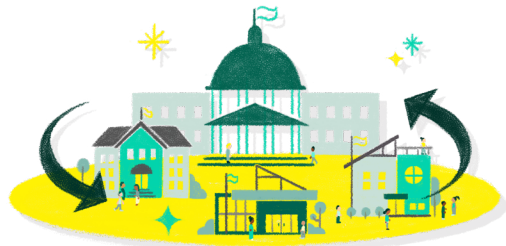


Schools must be places of agency and shared power

Decisions must be made closer to students—by educator teams collaboratively designing and running schools, and sharing power with students and families. Therefore,

Policy must catalyze organic, community-led change

Student-centered learning and shared power schools cannot emerge from mandates and top-down reforms. Rather, policy must clear barriers, provide encouragement, and ensure autonomy and space for school communities.



In this space, bold innovators redesign learning and teaching. They prove that positive change is possible. Then over time the system changes organically, as others refine, replicate, adopt, and adapt their innovations.

This annual report summarizes the actions we're taking to make this theory a reality.

Our current focus issues



Student-centered learning designs

Changing students' experiences in school

We support and clear policy barriers for educators who shift learning from one-size-fits-all, to personalized, learner-driven, and culturally affirming.



Educator talent pathways

Changing how we prepare and keep great people

We advance policies, programs, and pathways that recruit, prepare, and retain innovative and talented educators who reflect the communities they serve.



Outcomes that matter

Changing how success is defined and measured

We push schools, districts, and states to define, measure, and be accountable for broader forms of student academic, social, emotional, and civic success.



Autonomy and shared power

Changing where and how decisions are made

We advocate for decisions to be made closer to students, and support educators sharing power among their teams, students, families, and communities.

We advance our issues using three strategic levers—**thought leadership, policy advocacy, and educator support**—highlighted on the following pages.



Thought leadership highlights

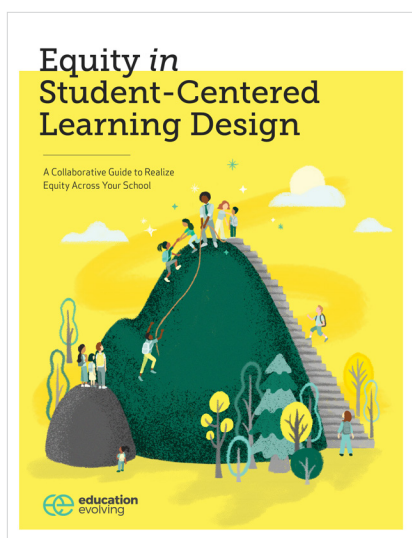
Shifting hearts and minds to spark change

We contributed ideas, stories, research, and analysis to inspire and equip change-making educators and policymakers, through publications, events, and media outreach.

Debuted a guide for educators to realize schoolwide equity

In January we released a new resource to help teams design and implement equitable, student-centered learning.

The guide provides helpful tips, real-world examples from educators leading equity work, and thoughtful discussion questions for teacher teams. Educators using the guide called it indispensable for professional development—and a hit among their teams.



160+ educators led through the guide in trainings with EE staff

1200 copies distributed in-print and online



Amy Junge: Teacher-Powered Schools: Sharing Power with Educators, Students and Families



EE's Amy Junge delivered a December EdTalk in Minneapolis on sharing power in teacher-powered schools.

Developed recommendations to improve MN's student survey

Surveys can help paint a more holistic picture of how schools are doing, and improve student learning experiences.

In 2022 we set out to develop recommendations to increase the relevance and use of the Minnesota Student Survey among families and educators looking to improve schools. We did an analysis of state surveys across all 50 states and spoke with dozens of local educators, with support from Great Minnesota Schools. We'll be publishing our recommendations in 2023.

54 community members interviewed to help inform our analysis

Kept a trusted source on innovative education policy and practice

We penned relevant blog posts, newsletters, and memos widely read by educators, policymakers, and others across Minnesota and beyond.



Policy advocacy highlights

Shifting rules and structure to catalyze change

We advanced policies that shift power to school communities, enable and encourage innovators, and create the conditions to scale equitable, student-centered learning.

Saw to the finish line new licensing standards for MN teachers

Since 2019, Minnesota's teacher licensing board (PELSB) has been rewriting standards for the knowledge and skills new teachers learn in preparation programs—for the first time since 1999.

Now wrapping up, the new standards—shaped by our sustained advocacy—will prepare teachers to lead with more student-centered pedagogy and better serve MN's increasingly diverse student population.

“The teacher collaborates with students to design and implement culturally relevant learning experiences, identify their strengths, and access family and community resources to develop their area of interest.”

—From the new Standards of Effective Practice to go into effect starting in 2023

Delivered a win for heritage language teachers in MN

Another win with PELSB: The board formally added creating pathways to heritage language licensure to their 2023 policy platform.

EE has championed these changes for the last three years—organizing and mobilizing heritage language teachers and advising PELSB on specific policy language recommendations that draw from our initial paper on this topic in 2020.



Paper available at
educationevolving.org/heritage-languages

Defended more honest and inclusive social studies standards

We continued our support of state standards that are more relevant to and reflective of all Minnesota students, after having served on the committee tasked to write the standards the last two years.

In 2022 we focused on building coalitions of supporters—in anticipation of likely heated public hearings in 2023 as the standards move down the rulemaking path.

30+ meetings with allies, advisers, and coalition members

4 public events to raise awareness of the need for the new standards

EE's Danyika Leonard spoke on a panel with students, educators, and elected leaders at a public forum April.

Scored a critical ally for competency-based education

Gov. Walz called on lawmakers to codify competency-based education (CBE) in Minnesota, adding language we advocated for to his education bill in 2022—plus special funding for schools taking on CBE.



Gov. Walz also gave a short video address to SCL4E 2022 attendees—more on that event on the next page.



Educator support highlights

Shifting practice to prove change is possible

We connected and supported a core group of schools and educators practicing student-centered learning and shared power through convenings, resources, and direct support.

Invigorated the student-centered community in a dynamic, hybrid convening

In May, we gathered in person and online at *Student-Centered Learning for Equity 2022: Honoring Our Differences and Shared Humanity* with 450 educators and supporters looking to build skills for equitably serving students.

The event —made possible through generous support and partnership from the Bush Foundation—boasted a live podcast-style keynote, virtual drop-ins by students from regional schools, a panel of community elders, a student mariachi band, and a full slate of workshops.

450 attendees online and in-person at the Science Museum of Minnesota

22 workshop sessions providing actionable tools & takeaways

Helped MN teachers and schools drive toward student-centered innovations

We worked hand-in-hand with educators around the state designing equitable, student-centered learning.

- We helped roll out an inquiry-based, outdoor environmental science-themed program at Gatewood Elementary in Hopkins Public Schools, with generous support from the Leon Lowenstein Foundation.
- We collaborated to rethink staff roles to facilitate more liberatory learning designs and better honor student identities at Academia Cesar Chavez in Minneapolis.
- We supported a coalition of local Hmong educators embarking on crucial education equity work.



Hosts of popular national education podcast *All of the Above* give their lively, interactive take on the traditional keynote at SCL4E 2022.



Truly hybrid: Students joined SCL4E 2022 live from their schools to speak about their school experiences.



Gatewood first graders learn in a greenhouse, one of many outdoor learning spaces on the school campus.

Drew hundreds of educators to the fifth national conference of the teacher-powered movement

In November, 260 educators and supporters from 18 states and Washington DC gathered to learn from one another at *The Great Teacher-Powered Get Together* in Minneapolis.

Workshop sessions covered topics like the impact of teacher empowerment on retention; cultivating supportive school climates for students, families, and communities; and the practices that sustain teacher leadership.

“I loved thinking about student-centered linked to teacher-powered and how they can’t exist alone.”

—A 2022 conference attendee in their event feedback

Built momentum as others sought our expertise on collaborative leadership

We grew our capacity and our team as demand for our expert coaching with student-centered, teacher-powered schools increased. With new partners, we:

- Formed a teacher-powered hub at Maricopa County School Districts in AZ, one of the nation’s largest school systems home to 750,000 students.
- Delivered a deep-dive PD workshop series with teachers from the 80 schools authorized by Grand Valley State University in MI, serving 35,000 students.
- Convened innovative teacher prep program leaders from across the country to strategize teacher pathways for team-based models in schools.

300+ teacher-powered schools serve students in 26 states



EE facilitated a three-part design thinking exercise with all attendees, who also led and participated in the conference’s two dozen breakouts.



Teams arrived early for guided site visits to seven nation-leading, teacher-powered Minnesota schools.

Teacher-powered 101

Sharing power with students, families, and the full educator team



Schools designed and run by teachers better tap the expertise of educators to serve their local communities—and grant the autonomy we know will retain our best people.

For more on our national teacher-powered schools work, visit teacherpowered.org.



What's next

In 2023 we look forward to:

- Final approval of the 21st century teacher standards and more honest and inclusive academic standards we helped usher in
- Helping pass legislation that clears a path to licensure for heritage language teachers
- Releasing our report on how MN's survey can provide more actionable data to improve student experiences in school
- Hosting our community at Student-Centered Learning for Equity 2023: Amplifying Students, Elevating Community
- Growing into the next phase of our deep partnership with Gatewood Elementary
- Tending to budding teacher-powered partnerships in Maricopa County, Washington DC, and elsewhere around the country

Thank you to those who supported our 2022 program

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Our team

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Alex Vitrella

Our Board

Kathlene Holmes Campbell
Richard Ingersoll
Rhoda Mhiripiri-Reed
Mary Ryerse
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