

# Making Effective Use of the PREP Pilot Period for Program Implementation

Nettie Legters, Project Director Korinna Wolfe, Executive Sponsor Manuel Vazquez, Lead Evaluator

Portland Public Schools and Education Northwest

## Poll

Who's in the Room?

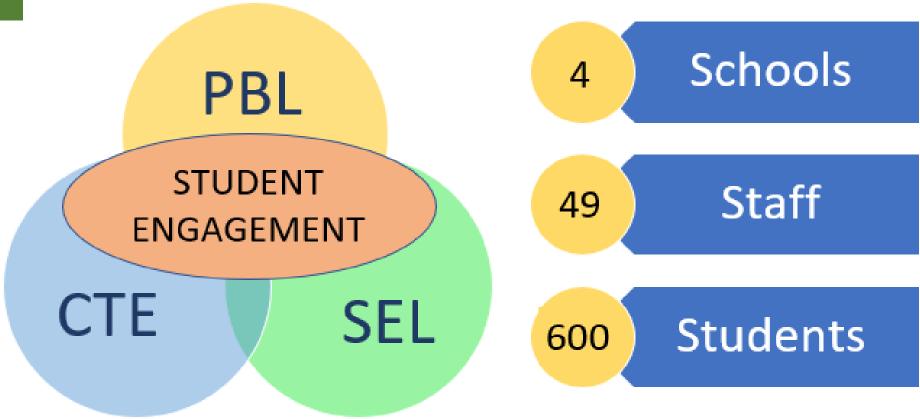
### **About PREP**

- 2017 Early-Phase EIR grant
- Portland Public Schools
  - Portland, Oregon
  - Urban
  - 50,000 students
  - Largest and most diverse school system in Oregon





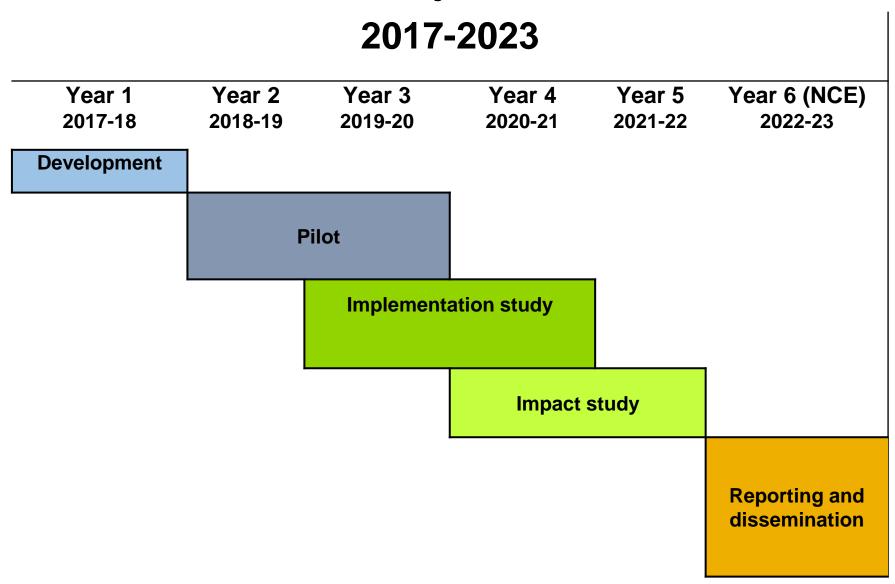
### Personalized, Relevant, and Engaged for Postsecondary



A project of Portland Public Schools funded by the U.S. Department of Education's Education Innovation and Research (EIR) grants program.



### **PREP Project Phases**



### **Pilot Phase was Necessary**

### We still have an important problem to solve

- Many students, especially our high-need and most underserved students, disengage and disconnect from school before they graduate from high school.
- Decades of secondary school improvement is consistent about what works, but not about how to make what works, work.

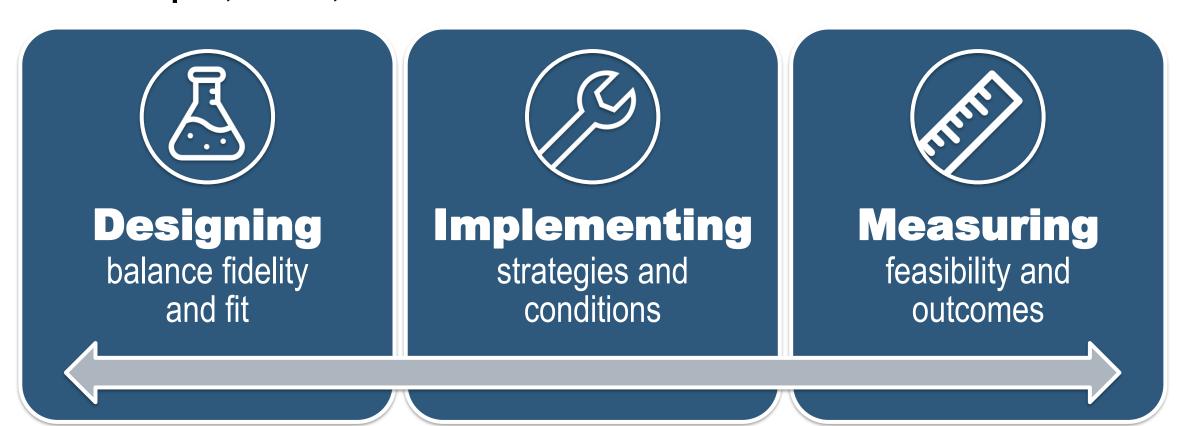
### **Pilot Phase was Intentional**

### From outset, we adopted a pilot mindset

- Admit we don't yet know how to solve the problem
- Celebrate desire and ideas for change and improvement
- Commit to designing, testing, learning, and iterating together
- Keep at it until we land on a design and implementation processes that are feasible, effective, and adaptive enough to support expansion

### **Pilot Phase was Productive**

### We developed, tested, and learned about:



# What was your favorite class or learning experience in high school? Why was it your favorite?

Share your thoughts in the chat (single words or short phrases please)

# Designing

What our pilot taught us about balancing fidelity and fit

### **Career and Technical Education 1**

### **VISION**

- Grow formal programs of study
- Students complete programs
- Students earn dual credit
- Students graduate and continue chosen pathway in college and/or workplace

### REALITY

### Programs of study involve:

- Extensive licensure requirements
- Facilities—equipment, supplies
- Three courses for program completion

### Career and Technical Education 2

### **Solutions**

- Grow Programs of Study
- Broaden range of career-connected learning
  - Awareness—career fairs, interest inventories
  - Exploration--speakers, job shadowing
  - Experience--simulation, work-based learning, internship

### **Project Based Learning 1**

### **VISION**

### All teachers:

- Participate in training, coaching
- Are super excited about PBL
- Engage students in projects
- Work across disciplines
- Partner with community
- Document & assess projects

### REALITY

### Most teachers:

- Participate in training
- Are curious about PBL
- Engage students in a project

### Some teachers:

- Work across disciplines
- Partner with community

### **Project Based Learning 2**

### **Solutions**

- Involve teachers in designing framework and rubric
- Strengthen training, coaching routines
- Communicate expectations
- Spotlight successful projects
- Strengthen system for documenting & assessing projects

### **Social Emotional Learning 1**

### **VISION**

### School social workers (SSWs):

- Co-plan supports & interventions (schoolwide, targeted, intensive)
- Train staff
- Monitor progress
- Improve process

### **REALITY**

### School social workers (SSWs):

- Build relationships & trust
- Identify common SEL approach
- Build relationships & trust
- Clarify roles
- Build relationships & trust
- Co-plan supports & interventions (schoolwide, targeted, intensive)

### **Social Emotional Learning 2**

### Solution(s)

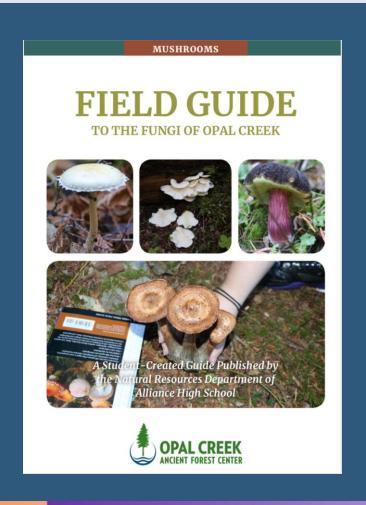
- Build in time for School Social Workers (SSWs) to establish relationships and trust
- Provide training and professional learning community (PLC) for SSWs
- Design & expect foundational SEL practices
  - Tier 1: advisory & staff training
  - Tier 2: affinity & action groups
  - Tier 3: 1:1 counseling & case management

## **Integrating PREP Design Elements**

Example:

OPAL CREEK FIELD GUIDE

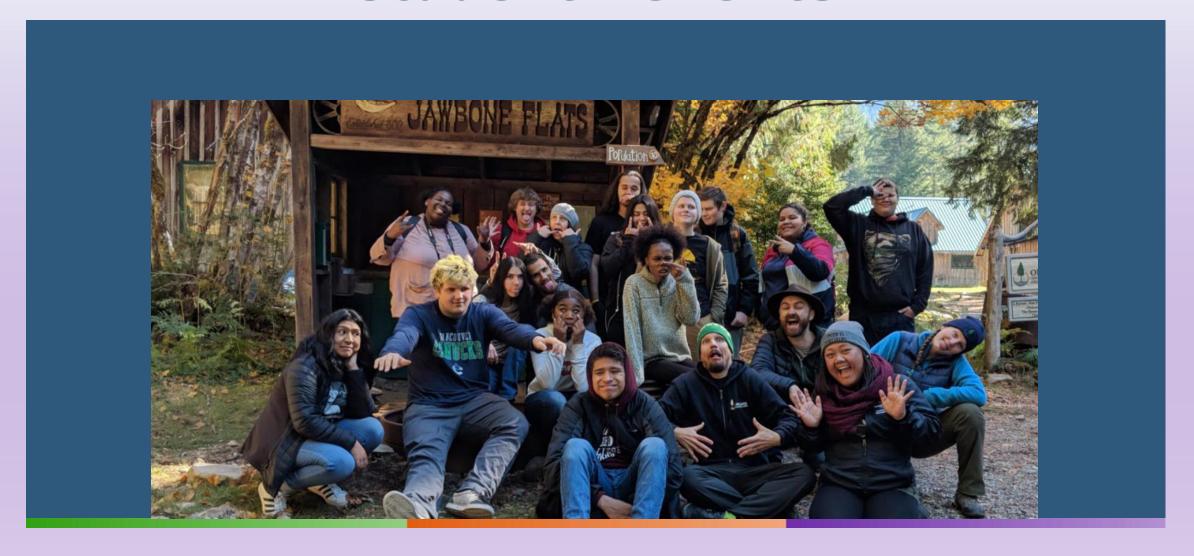
Alliance at Meek HS





Opal Creek Field Guide--the final product of an 18-week collaborative project that integrated project-based, career-connected, and social-emotional learning

### **Student Benefits**



# How much did your design change as you began implementing it?

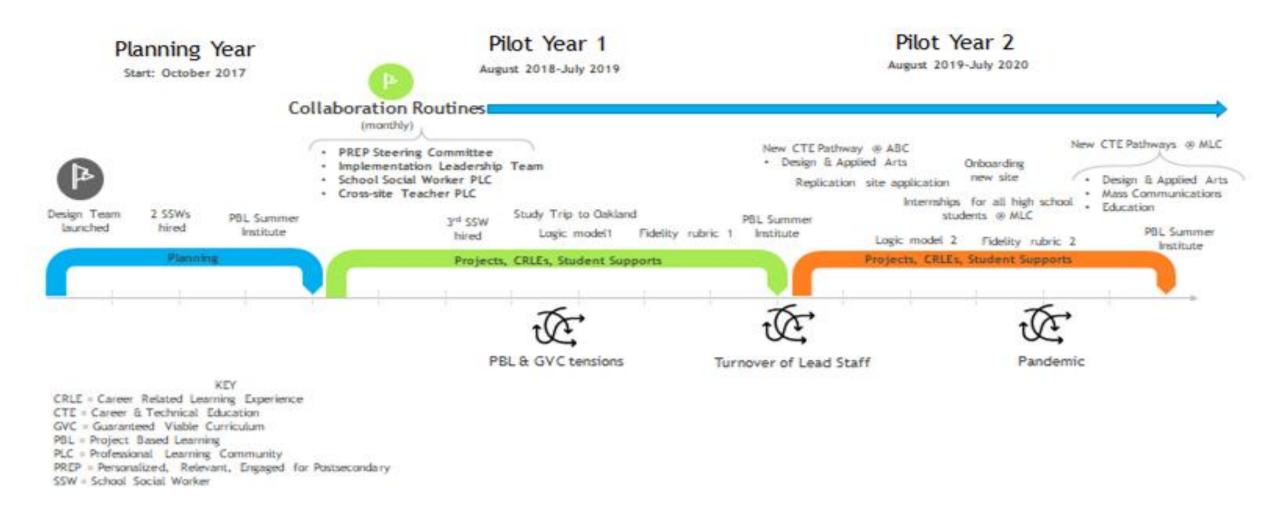
## Implementing

What our pilot taught us about strategies and conditions for success

### **Pilot Sites**

- Multiple Pathways to Graduation, K-12 Cohort of Schools and Programs
- Three district-administered alternative schools
  - Alliance High School @ Benson
  - Alliance High School @ Meek
  - Metropolitan Learning Center K-12
- Variation in schedules, grade levels, enrollment cycles
  - Lots of opportunity for creative adaptation....and fatal mutation

### PREP Journey Map



### **PREP Planning and Pilot**

### Establish standing teams and collaboration routines

Team	Participants	Meetings
Design Team	Administrators from each campus School Social Work Manager Project Director MPG Director & Area Senior Director School innovation/PBL consultants	Twice Monthly Initially
Implementation Leadership Team	Administrators from each campus School Social Work Manager Project Director MPG Director, MPG Area Senior Director Evaluator as appropriate	Monthly
Steering Committee	Implementation Leadership Team + Office of Teaching and Learning -College and Career Readiness - STEAM Office of Student Supports -Student Services	Quarterly

### **Power of Collaboration Routines**

### Secures project and sustains progress

- Buffers project from staff transitions at project and building levels
- Ensure district leaders across departments are informed and engaged
  - Align project with district priorities, e.g. equity, culturally responsive instruction
  - Reiterate agreements with district around flexibility to innovate

### **Professional Learning Communities**

### Open spaces where lead teachers and staff can be spark plugs for success

- Cross-site subject-area PLCs
- Quarterly cross-site convenings to showcase projects & plan
  - Working to build cross site project based learning projects
- Cross-site School Social Worker PLC
- Involve lead teachers and SSWs in onboarding new sites

### **Opportunities to Learn**

### Input drives continuous improvement

- Study trip to Oakland
- Yale RULER training for school social workers
- Annual PBL training

# What lessons did you learn from your pilot?

# How did they shape your evaluation?

Breakout or share reflections in chat

# Measuring

What our pilot taught us about measuring feasibility, fidelity and outcomes

### **Evaluation Activities**

### **Evaluation Design**

#### Define and Codify Core Components of PREP

### **Measure PREP Implementation**

### Measure PREP Impact

Develop the implementation and impact study approach

Develop logic model and indicators

Define levels of implementation and fidelity rubric

Develop data collection protocols

Estimate the impact of PREP on school level outcomes

### **Defining the Core Components of PREP**

- Leadership is a core component of PREP
  - Specify leadership role in logic model & fidelity rubric
- Begin orientation and planning in replication sites six months prior to implementation
  - Engage full site team, including school social worker

# Measuring PREP Implementation: Indicators and fidelity rubric

- Adjust expectations of PBL implementation
- Create a system/rubric to assess PBL quality
- Specify SEL activities that are part of implementation
- Include data on broader set of career-related learning experiences

# Measuring PREP Implementation: Test Data Sources and Protocols

- Improve systems to collect data on participation in professional development activities
- Potentially use participant surveys for SEL measures
- Adjust administrative data requests

### **Measuring PREP Impact**

- Establish relationships with PPS data
  - Solidify understanding of measures (e.g. measuring attendance)
  - Understand the extent that outcome measures are collected

## "There is no greater power on earth than an idea whose time has come"

- Victor Hugo

A&P

### Thank You

### For more information about PREP contact:

Nettie Legters, Ph.D.
Project Director
nlegters@pps.net
(503) 916-2000

Korinna Wolfe, M.Ed., MSW
Area Senior Director
<a href="mailto:kwolfe@pps.net">kwolfe@pps.net</a>
(503) 341-2938

Manuel Vazquez, Ph.D. Lead Evaluator Mvazquez@ednw.org (503) 275-9500