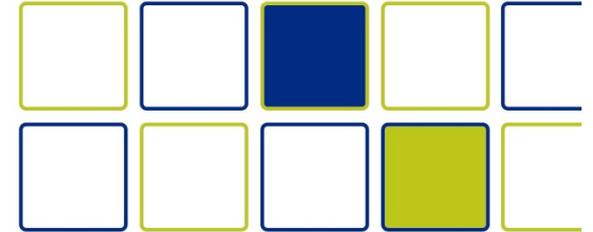




ConnectEd

The California Center for College and Career

Transforming today's education
for tomorrow's economy



Facilitating Better Group Work for Successful Integrated Projects

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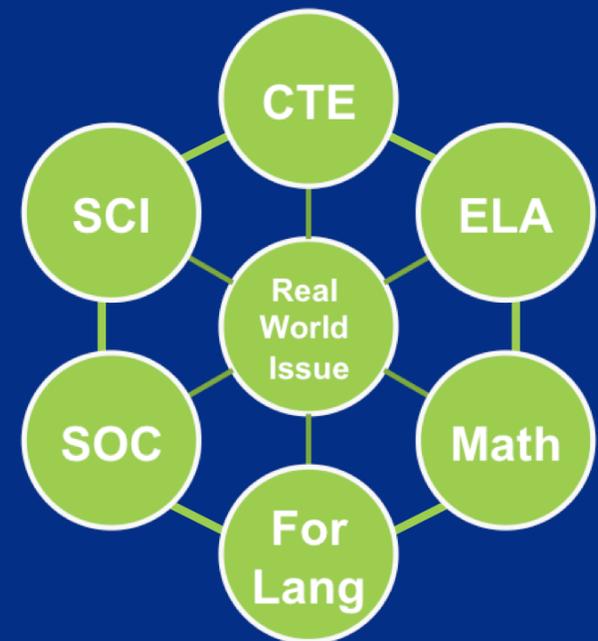
Goals for Today's Session

- Identify benefits and challenges to effective group work
- Examine research on effective student teams
- Share our experiences—and challenges—implementing team projects, especially in an integrated curriculum
- Identify project elements and instructional strategies that foster effective student teams
- Experience a team-building exercise



What is Curriculum Integration?

- Instruction centers on a concept, problem, or topic in a career-themed context
- Academic and technical subjects connect around a unifying concept that reinforces and enlivens learning
- The concept brings together aspects of the curriculum in a meaningful way





Why Curriculum Integration?

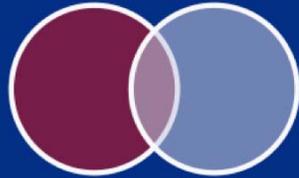
- Increases active learning through engaging applications
- Connects an academy's academic and technical curricula in authentic ways
- Helps teachers reach diverse learners
- Develops students' educational and career planning skills



Continuum of Integration



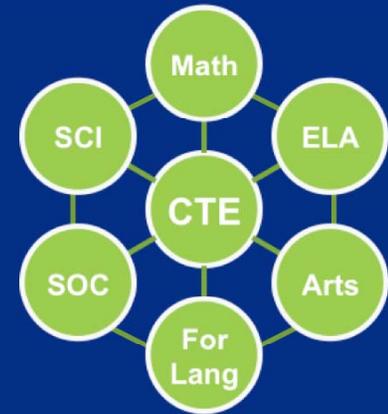
Single Subject



Parallel (Paired)



Interrelated



Conceptual

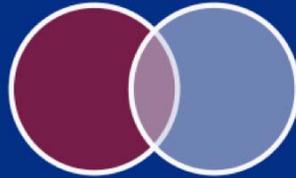




Single Subject Integration



Single Subject



Parallel (Paired)



Interrelated



Conceptual

Individual teachers make connections within their own classroom

BASIC

INTERMEDIATE

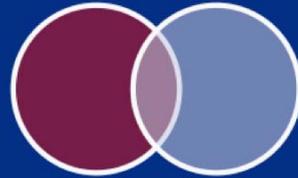
COMPLEX



Parallel or Paired Integration



Single Subject



Parallel (Paired)



Interrelated



Conceptual

Two teachers share some topics, without team planning

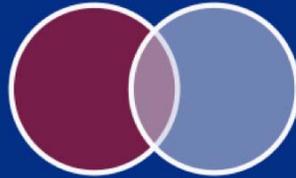




Interrelated Integration



Single Subject



Parallel (Paired)



Interrelated



Conceptual

Several teachers
plan to coordinate
topics and
instruction

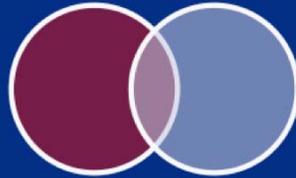




Conceptual Integration



Single Subject



Parallel (Paired)



Interrelated



Conceptual

Teacher team uses a concept or *problem* to frame instruction and create curricular coherence

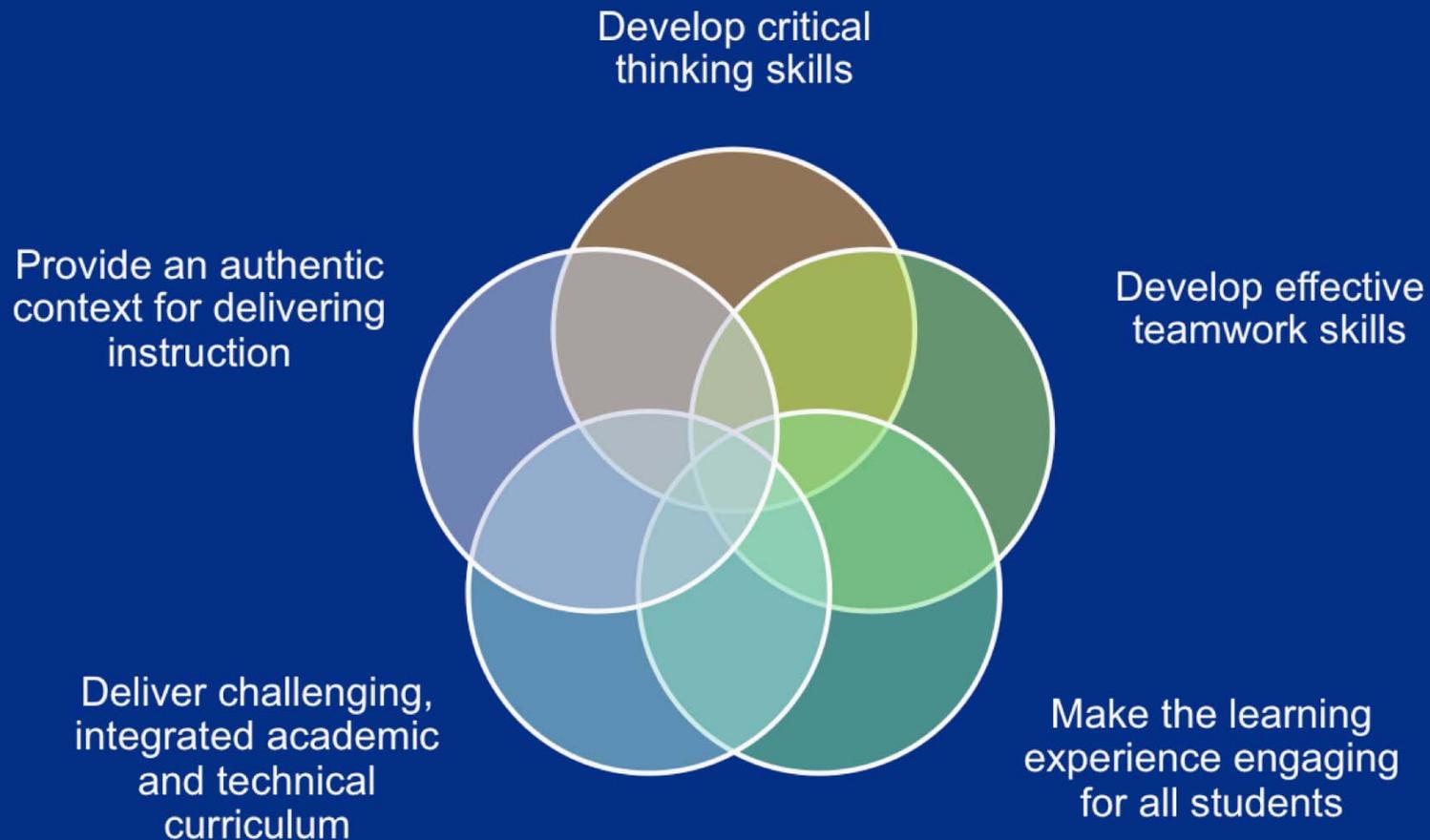




Problem/Project-Based Learning



Achieves Many Learning Goals





Why *Integrated Team* Projects?

Integrated team projects are an effective way to meet all of these learning goals... and more!



What Does the Research Say About Cooperative Learning?

- Roots in theory drawn from anthropology, sociology, economics, political science, and psychology
- Over 900 research studies validate the effectiveness of cooperative over competitive and individualistic efforts



Positive Results of Cooperative



Learning

What kinds of outcomes have been examined?

- Academic achievement, higher-level reasoning, retention, time-on-task, transfer of learning, achievement motivation, intrinsic motivation, continuing motivation, social and cognitive development, self-esteem, valuing differences.



Challenges To Effective Group Work



in Integrated Projects

Group Discussion:

What kinds of integrated team projects have your students completed?

What challenges have you faced?



Strategies That Promote Effective



Team Projects

Pair-share:

What team-building exercises and other strategies have you used to develop teamwork and create groups that work together productively?



Creating Effective Student Teams

- Project Elements
- Instructional Strategies



Project Elements that Foster Effective Teamwork: Research Findings

- Students use planning tools to be productive
- Group size determined by project complexity
- Individual and group assessment
- Peer evaluation
- Students experience multiple roles
- Project complexity and time constraint requires cooperation by all team members



Establishing Effective Teamwork: The



Research

- Students participate in team-building exercises that are fun and challenging
- Students analyze and apply their experience with the exercise
- Students design a group performance rubric that gives them a stake in creating an effective learning process
- Students create and sign a performance contract that helps build trust in each other



Building Effective Student Teams

Let's give it a try!



Elements of a Performance Contract

What elements would you like to see students include in their performance contract?



Instructional Strategies That Foster Effective Teamwork

Focus explicitly and continuously on teamwork

- Individual responsibility
- Accountability to the group
- Mutual respect
- Valuing differences
- Clear communication

What did we miss?



Instructional Strategies That Foster Effective Teamwork

Set clear goals for the project

- Incorporate student input into the goal setting
- Early agreement about project outcomes
- Create a clear definition of success

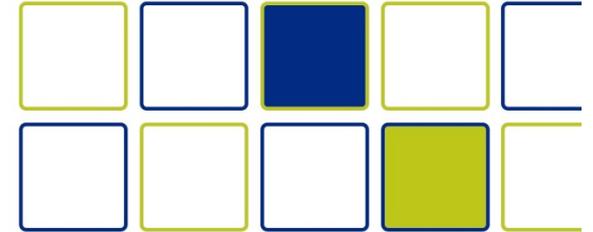
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Thank you for being here today!