

Education philosophy and implementation of best practices:

Wasatch County School District looks at Professor John Hattie's research on practices that effect student achievement. Some of the critical high yield strategies that we believe in:

1. **Collective Efficacy:** Creating collective teacher efficacy through collaboration. Teacher collaboration about student learning through a results-oriented approach is at the forefront of our approach to increase the capacity of our teachers. Teacher spaces to collaborate are critical.
2. **Collaboration, communication, critical thinking, and creativity:** Some of the most critical competencies our students need to develop include the ability to collaborate, communicate, critically think, and be creative. Engaged learning practices (structured group work, hands on, task oriented, etc...) and non-traditional courses (CTE, STEM, Art, etc...) that put students in situations to develop in these areas are seen as critical.
3. **Additional time and support:** We want all our students to learn at high levels. High expectations are critical. Some kids are going to need additional time and support through small group situations to be successful.

School Size and Location

- The school district has partnered with BYU to do a literature review on this topic. We have past research that we have used but want to have the most updated and complete research on this topic.

Technology

Technology is seen as an accelerator for the three items listed under education philosophy. Technology is a critical component in our education efforts.

1. **Collective Efficacy:** Technology allows teachers to collaborate with each other using data-based decisions, keeping records and organizing on behalf of students.
2. **Collaboration, communication, critical thinking, and creativity:** Technology is used as a tool during group work to help kids in these four areas. This is the way adults and students work in today's world.
3. **Additional time and support:** Technology allows for students to be worked with on their own level in a more consistent manner.

A new component for technology is on-line education. This is multi-faceted but will be used in conjunction with Wasatch Learning Academy.

Early Childhood Education

Preschool and Kindergarten are a critical part of Wasatch School District and is seen as critical to the success of student learning. Wasatch has moved to all day kindergarten. Our preschool program is growing and will continue to grow. This is an area that we need to be aware could be expanded from our politicians.