"CALL" Up UDL
Construct Academics for Liberated Learning
What Teachers Need in a UDL Environment

Universal Design for Learning (UDL) helps ensure instructional practices, materials, and educational environments meet the needs of the wide spectrum of students. The Center for Universal Design for Learning has identified the following elements (needs) that should be afforded to teachers that are immersed in an environment that integrates the principles of UDL.

Administrator Values
Teacher feels supported by worth, appreciation and shared vision by the administrator. The relationship between the teachers' and administrators' vision is important. Both must feel that ALL students can learn and need equal access to learn.

Time
Teachers need time with colleagues to share practical strategies for classroom activities. Teachers should also be given time for training to use technology and time to master the new skills. The PD should focus on the use of technology tools and resources to enhance and expand teaching.

Digital Media
Teachers need access to digital media to provide adaptable materials that will allow students to choose and customize formats suited to their learning needs. Using multiple media, such as video and audio formats, provides a variety of ways to represent a concept and allows students to access the materials through different senses.

Structure
Teachers need a structured schedule that will foster sharing of lessons, planning, reflection and discussion on integrating UDL principles that will enhance student learning.

Access to Technology
Teachers have access to technology (Social Media) to collaborate with other teachers and access to technology as an instructional support to improve their ability to help diverse learners succeed. Teachers also need access to technology tools that will allow them to engage all students in learning.

Access to Information
Teachers need access to current information on educational trends, online professional development, to network with other colleagues and to research current educational topics of interest. The educator also needs access to pertinent information to support lesson content.

Lesson Planning
Integrate the principles of UDL into planning (goals, methods, materials, and assessment) to meet the needs of diverse learners. Lesson plans should be aligned with standards. Goals for lessons should not contain verbs that confine the demonstration of competence to the task and are best designed when written in a broad manner to permit flexible options for demonstrating mastery. Curriculum should be reviewed for potential barriers and the following principles applied to help remove the obstacles:

- multiple representations of information and concepts
- multiple options in expression and action
- multiple ways to engage learners in the lesson

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What Students Need in a UDL Environment

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Teacher Accepts Me
The student knows the teacher cares and respects them while setting high expectations. The class climate has to be one that allows learning to thrive, especially on error. Students need to know that the climate of the class is fair, empathetic, and trustworthy. The student feels that he/she is valued. All signs point to teacher accepts the students.

Structure
Structure should be designed in such a way to give students equal opportunities to learn.

Equal Access to Information
All students should receive information, assessments and content in a way that meets their learning style. Some students may need materials in a paper format, some in an electronic format, or some students may need the information in an audio format.

Access to Technology
Computer-based technology tools can help gain access to information and provide scaffolds to learning. Students use web-based technology tools to access information, express skills, and make learning inter-active and engaging. Web-based technologies provide students options that reduce or eliminate barriers found in print.

Digital Media
Students need access to digital media sources in order to manipulate, create or express themselves in different ways. Using multimedia, such as video and audio provides students with a variety of ways to represent a concept and allows them to access the materials in different ways.

Informative Assessment
Any assessment that a student immediately receives feedback, informing them of what they know and what they need to know.