

# CREATING A STANDARDS-BASED SYSTEM IN ADAMS 50

A presentation to the  
educational leaders of Maine  
Copper Stoll, Ph.D.  
Chief Academic Officer, Adams County School District  
50

[cstoll@adams50.org](mailto:cstoll@adams50.org)

303-657-3812

Sept 15, 2009



## Introduce you to Adams 50

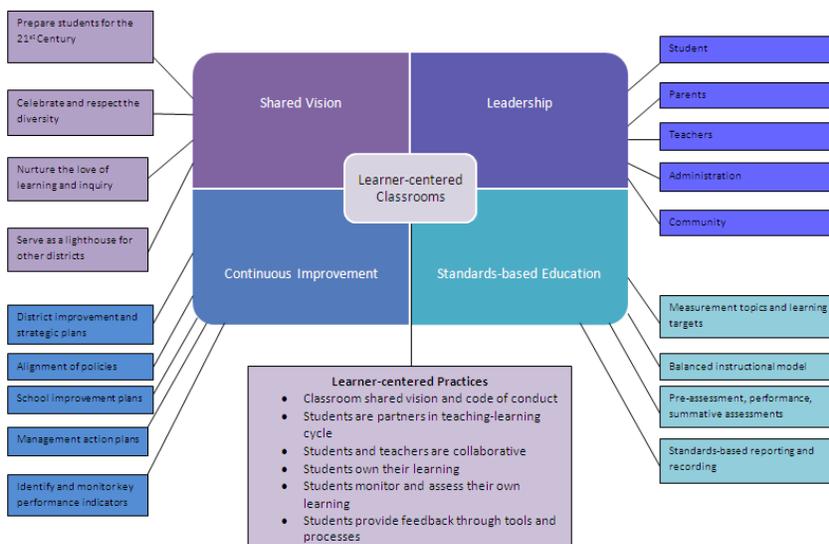
### Urgency: “Burning Platform”

- Skills for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learner
  - CAP4K SB 08-212 & HB 07-1118
- “Academic Watch” (Fall 2006)
  - Low graduation rate and high post secondary remediation rate
  - Static achievement on CSAP
  - Persistent achievement gaps
- Changing demographics

## Two year journey!

- Summer 2007- RISC Marzano Summer Symposium
- Commitment to learn
- RISC does Awareness Training
- January 2008-Visit to Alaska
- Vote of confidence and Board proclamation
- Summer 2008-Model Classroom Teachers trained
- Standards-based design components created

## Adams 50 SBS Schematic based on the 4 components of the RISC model



## Leadership

- District Systems
  - Developed Leadership across all stakeholder groups
  - OSAT groups (Staff)
  - Model Classroom Teachers
  - Parent Presentations and Advisory group
- Student
  - Learner-centered Classrooms
  - Response to passive, compliant students
  - Vehicle for student voice and ownership of learning

## Leadership Lessons Learned

Don't have to have all the answers-Develop them together!

Need a person to lead the initiative

Spend time ensuring district leadership is fully trained

Build leadership skills in all stakeholder groups

Teacher leaders and the students create momentum for change!

## Shared Vision

- District systems
  - Created shared vision during strategic planning process
  - School and classroom visions are being aligned to district vision
- Students
  - Students are monitoring the shared vision in the classroom
  - Code of conduct empowers the shared vision

## Shared Vision Lessons Learned

Shared Vision needs to have  
total buy-in in its creation

Make sure all  
stakeholders understand  
the shared vision

Students

Parents

Teachers

Principals

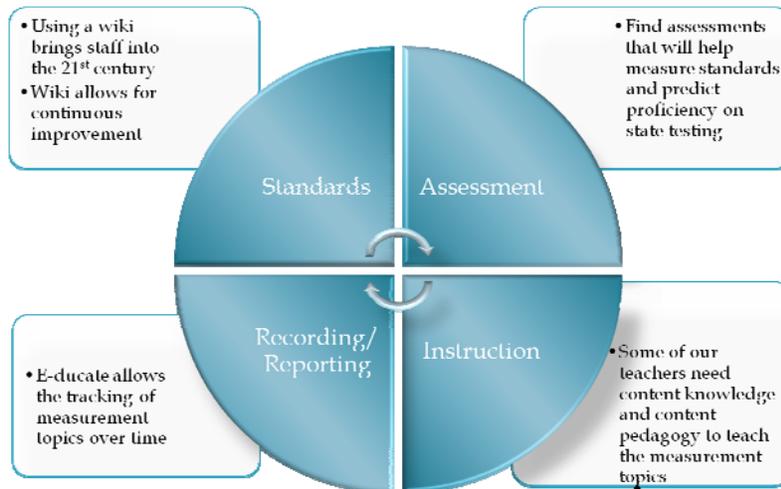
Central office  
administrators

Community

## Standards-based Design

- District systems
  - Created Measurement Topics with Marzano
  - Designed scoring guide with 2's, 3's and 4's
  - Designed assessments to ensure mastery at 3+
    - Mastery of measurement topics
    - Predictor of state proficiency
  - Creating an instructional model
    - Teaching-learning cycle
    - Gradual release of responsibility
  - Using e-ducate to record and report proficiency over time (Teachers, students, parents)
- Students
  - Created a capacity matrix for students to use to monitor progress
  - Students move at their own pace

## SBD Lessons Learned- Everything takes longer than you think!

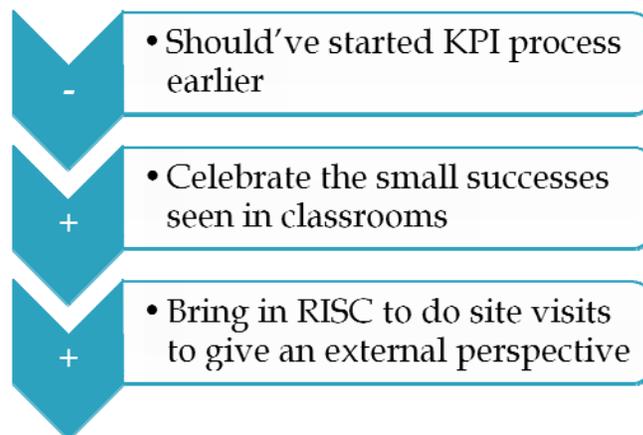


## Continuous Improvement

- District systems
  - Plan-Do-Check-Adjust
  - Key Performance Indicators will be transformed into a dashboard on our website to check and adjust practice
  - Identify leading and lagging indicators
  - Align policies, procedures to un-time-bound system
- Students
  - Students will track their own progress through capacity matrices and e-ducate
  - RISC tools for continuous feedback

Students work for mastery of measurement

## Continuous Improvement Lessons Learned



## Most Important Lessons!

- 

Don't forget to have fun and keep your sense of humor!

Expect folks to fear the unknown!

Be transparent!

Share your successes as well as your challenges!

Learner-centered also means teacher-centered and principal-centered