



Customized Programs

UP for Learning initiatives **will be happening** during the '20-'21 school year ... in-person, remotely, or a combination of both. Regardless of the learning landscape, we can reimagine and transform education together!



Unleashing the Power of Partnership for Learning

UP for Learning has demonstrated, across the years, the power of adult/youth partnerships. School district and community visioning is time-consuming and arduous work; however, **in working with UP, every member walks away equipped with the tools necessary to engage and inspire others toward a common goal.**

—Amy Rex, Milton Town School District superintendent

Working together physically or remotely, UP for Learning has the resources and experience to help youth and adults navigate our new educational environments to reimagine and transform the learning experience.

UP for Learning can help you create authentic opportunities to position youth as change agents in partnership with adults. If you are wrestling with any of the following questions, we can help:

- How do I help my school community understand **WHY youth-adult partnership matters?**
- **What needs to change in our youth-adult relationships and structures** to elevate youth voice and embrace partnership?
- How can I employ Youth Participatory Action Research (YPAR) to inform our future direction?
- How do we **train and support youth and adults** to work together in authentic partnership?
- How do we **equitably recruit youth** to partner with adults?



Our Future: Customization

UP for Learning has expanded services to support individual schools and community groups that have a vision for youth activation with adult partners. Over the past decade, UP has developed an extensive array of tools and strategies to elevate young people as partners and agents of change in reimagining schools. Examples:



Strategic Planning

Every strategic planning process should begin with extensive research of all the key stakeholder groups. Milton School District engaged elementary through high school students and their adult partners to mobilize their community, collect, and synthesize data and provide input into the plan. North Country Career Center and River Bend Career & Technical Center are developing (through Perkins V, the federal funding for career centers) student-centered strategic plans by establishing youth-adult teams to make recommendations. These teams are implementing action research and sharing their results. UP provides a framework for data collection and training to launch this work.

Professional Learning

UP for Learning provides professional learning opportunities for schools and districts around the state based on specific needs. UP is working with PK-12 educators in the Windham Southwest Supervisory Union to implement Tier 1 Restorative Practices into their district. Orleans Southwest Supervisory Union K-12 faculty engaged in professional learning to align teaching practices with current brain research; including how to empower students with this same knowledge so that learning becomes a transparent partnership between the teacher and the learner.

Building Understanding and Ownership of Personalized Learning

Schools in Vergennes and Milton explored implications of Act 77 and the three pillars of personalization on teaching and learning through youth participatory action research and then created action plans supporting personalized learning for all students. Peoples Academy and Stowe Middle School mobilized youth-adult teams to build understanding and buy-in for their “Scholarly Habits” — skills that serve as the foundational benchmarks for their education.

Collaborative Peer Review

In an effort to bring deeper learning to their re-accreditation process, three schools engaged in a year-long collaboration to focus their continuous improvement efforts. They mobilized a youth-adult team to conduct action research, including observations in each other's schools, sharing their observations of strengths and areas of growth. Afterward, each engaged their school community in a full faculty meeting work session.

or....

Your unique need or opportunity?

Next Steps

If you have been contemplating deepening relationships and elevating the roles and responsibilities of young people and want guidance to think through a successful process, **please contact Lindsey Halman at lindsey@upforlearning.org**. The UP for Learning team would be glad to meet with you to discuss the alignment of our resources with your needs.

About UP for Learning

Over the past decade, UP for Learning has worked with 113 schools, reaching over 2700 youth in every county of the state to build the capacity of youth and their adult partners as innovators, collaborators, and leaders. We continually scan the state educational landscape to identify opportunities for young people to do meaningful work in their schools — work that would otherwise be addressed by adults only. In response, we have created initiatives undertaken by multiple schools, providing training, tools, and embedded support for each endeavor:

- Youth and Adults Transforming Schools Together
- Getting to ‘Y’: Youth Bring Meaning to the Youth Risk Behavior Survey
- Communicating School Redesign
- M3: Mindset, Metacognition, and Motivation
- Transforming School Culture Through Restorative Practices
- P4 Advisories: Personal Power and Purpose through Partnership
- Cultivating Pathways to Sustainability

Empowering youth and adults to reimagine & transform education *together*

