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WHAT, WHY, AND HOW OF BLENDED LEARNING

Why blended learning?

Explore <Insert School/District Name> average/prior year/historical range of student learning needs:

Math (Spring 2017-2018 NWEA MAP data)

	Min RIT score	Max RIT score	Range of RIT scores	Standard deviation
K	142	185	43	9.7
1st	167	214	47	11.2
2nd	165	209	44	9.6
3rd	177	223	46	13.1
4th	189	231	42	10.5
5th	202	232	30	8.7
6th	186	243	57	14.7
7th	197	243	46	13.2

Reading (Spring 2017-2018 NWEA MAP data)

	Min RIT score	Max RIT score	Range of RIT scores	Standard deviation
K	145	181	36	8.7
1st	161	197	36	10.3
2nd	161	214	53	12.4
3rd	164	215	51	12.5
4th	169	220	51	11.6
5th	197	227	30	8.1
6th	183	236	53	12.3
7th	197	236	39	10.0

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Reflection questions:

1. Which grades/subjects seem to have the largest variance (spread) between where their students are at academically?

2. What does this data suggest would likely be true if a teacher tried to meet all student needs instructing them in a primarily whole group context?

Working definition of blended learning

Seton's working definition of blended learning is an education program in which a student learns through:

Partially through _____, with students having some control over _____, place, _____, and/or pace;	As well as, partially through _____-_____ instruction within a _____-and-_____ _ location	With those elements _____ by the deliberate _____ of achievement _____ from a student's online learning and teacher-lead instruction. Leading to _____ _____ instruction
		

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Case study: Comparing blended and traditional classrooms

To deepen your understanding of what blended learning is you are going to dive into a series of short vignettes that contrast the views of blended teacher/students to that of non-blended teacher/students. As you read the vignettes below look for and mark the following elements as you find them. When you have finished reading fill out the accompanying graphic organizer.

B	Something that seems like a benefit of blended learning
!	Something you would be thrilled to say yourself or hear from a student
^	Something you have felt or experienced before

Teacher example #1	
Blended teacher A	**Non-blended teacher B**
"If I had to articulate what I would consider the largest benefit of blended learning; it is the ease at which I can provide data driven instruction to my students. The reporting features from our content providers as well as the MAP assessment give me a great window into the gaps my students still have. "	"I feel like I have a strong understanding of where my students still have knowledge or skill gaps, I need to grade every piece of work they do. If I don't do that, then I am having to wait for the end of a unit or for a quiz to see what my students still don't understand. I wish I was getting more data on their learning, while at the same time giving them more feedback but it is just so overwhelming"

Teacher example #2	
Blended teacher C	**Non-blended teacher D**
"When I reflect on how my practice has changed I think the most beneficial adjustment has been how frequently I can pull students for small group instruction. While my students are working on their Chromebooks at their specific level, I am freed up to pull students based specifically on their needs. I don't	"The other frustrating issue I run into is finding the time to loop back to misconceptions or skills my kiddos don't have. There isn't really a time or place for me to pull four students if they are the only ones struggling with main idea. I'd like to be differentiating my lessons more based on my student's needs, but I just do not have the time to plan or execute it."

know how I could do that without killing myself otherwise."	

Student example #1	
Blended student A	**Non-blended student B**
"I like using i-Ready because it helps me understand what skills I am strong in and where I need help. I also know that the more I work at things, the better I will understand them. I didn't always feel that way about school, in 3rd grade it just felt like even if I tried hard, I still never felt like I knew what was going on. Using the computer, I can see every day that I am getting smarter, and hopefully that will get me ready for college.'	"School just seems so old fashioned. The newest thing we have in the classroom is a projector. I spend time at home online or using my parents' tablet, and that stuff is just so much more fun for me. I mean, I'd be happy if anything we did at school was like the games I play online."

Student example #2	
Blended student C	**Non-blended student D**
"I know I am improving in reading because my Lexile level has grown by 150 points since September. It's cool that we discuss what we read online and everyone in the class can participate. I am becoming a stronger reader and my teacher often gives me and another student high school-level texts to read and lets us work together on projects, so we are rarely bored. When I grow up I want to be an architect, so my Lexile level needs to be a 1420 when I graduate high school. I know as of now I am on the right path to get there."	"In reading, in particular, I am often bored because I have already read most of the books that we are discussing in class. I enjoy reading outside of school, and I do well on reading tests. I have always been an A student in reading, but lately I get in trouble in that class because I talk to my friends. I don't know what else to do because I get the activities and comprehension questions done really early."

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Case study graphic organizer

	Which perspective is more aligned to your experience?	What does this comparison illuminate about the benefits of blended learning?
Teacher example #1		
Teacher example #2		
Student example #1		
Student example #2		

Blended learning benefits

1. Consistent _____ responsive to student needs
2. Improved _____ for teachers and students
3. Promotes a _____ in students which is an important non-cognitive skill for future success
4. Allows teachers to more easily _____ (in order to meet student needs)
5. Engage students in meaningful _____ that helps them fill gaps and receive enrichment

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Rotational model overview

- Recreate the Image from the PPT in the space below:

Benefits:	Physical space
1. This allows students to stay in the same classroom with the same instructor 2. Allows for larger number of students per classroom, while still providing consistent small group instruction	1. Each classroom has enough desks for traditional whole group instruction 2. In addition, each room has computer learning "stations" with enough seating for up to half the class 3. Students in the course of a lesson will likely have three different seats: a. Whole Class instruction b. Computer Learning "Station" c. Small group instruction

Optional Exit Ticket - see bank of questions in Facilitator's Guide if you want to include