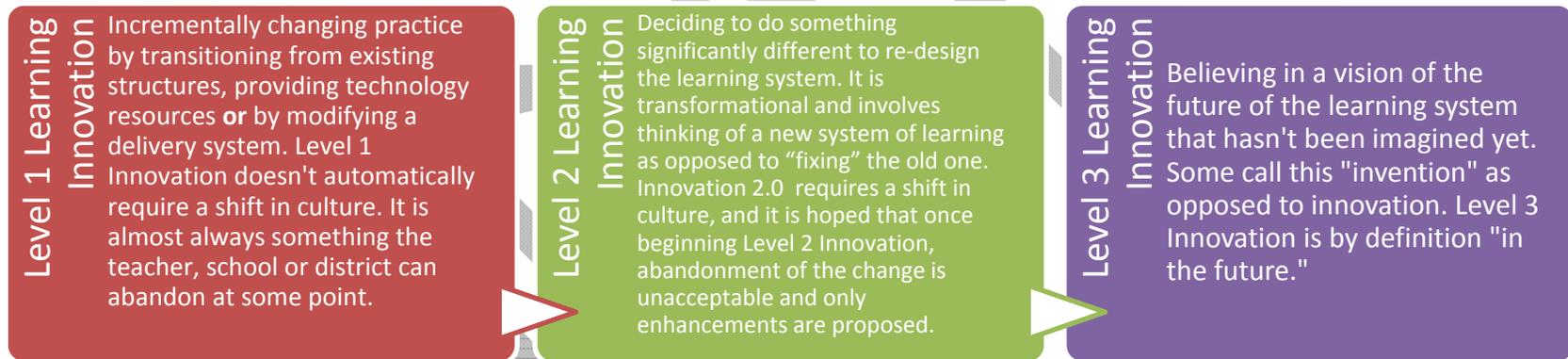


Learning Innovation

KRS 156.108 (Kentucky’s new Districts of Innovation statute) defines “innovation” as “a new or creative alternative to existing instructional and administrative practices intended to improve student learning and student performance of all students.” To be more specific, “Learning Innovation” is about moving from the teaching system of the 20th century to a new “learning system” of the 21st century where learning and the “facilitation of learning” (teaching) are the central elements. Learning Innovation is not about modifying the existing teaching system; it is about creating a new system that includes the following:

- involving students and teachers in significantly different ways that lead to increased student learning and engagement
- defining new outcomes for learning and designing new ways of measuring students’ progress and mastery
- creating new ways of facilitating learning and designing different structures for deploying adults in schools
- moving from a “one-size-fits-all” instructional program to personalized learning
- focusing on the 21st-century skills of collaboration, teamwork, problem-formulation, creativity and the ability to “learn how to learn”
- creating systems where students are partners in designing and owning their learning
- ensuring that a student can learn anywhere he/she can access the instructional material and at any time, 24 hours a day/7 days a week and 365 days a year
- creating a system of support for each student to be successful in this environment

Learning Innovation is a continuous improvement model in which classrooms, schools and districts move from a culture of incremental improvement and change to possibly inventing new processes and structures never before imagined. With that in mind, Learning Innovation has multiple points of entry and progressions.



A good example of this progression through innovation is when one looks at the concept of time and schedule. The diagram below uses the example of the school day and points out the progressions through the innovation continuum.

