

## Innovative Learning



State Superintendent Tony Evers is committed to every child graduating with the knowledge and skills needed for

success in college or career. To achieve that goal, the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) is helping schools seek new ways to bring innovative teaching and experiences to students in the classroom. Sometimes this means using technology to enhance and improve student learning.

With technology changing rapidly, the State Superintendent's Digital Learning Advisory Council has released a strategic plan to help guide schools in how to use technology effectively and efficiently. The plan calls for statewide efforts to:

- develop, store, and access digital content,
- emphasize a new way of teaching through professional development and virtual professional learning networks, and
- re-invigorate the technology infrastructure in K-12 schools and public libraries, establishing them as learning centers within communities.

One project where technology and innovation are essential is Wisconsin's Innovation Lab Network. Wisconsin is one of eight states chosen to participate in this program sponsored by the Council of Chief State School Officers. Through this effort DPI works closely with Cooperative Educational Service Agency (CESA) I

to encourage and research innovative practices in schools to improve student learning. This initiative emphasizes a personalized learning experience for students. Currently, more than 20 districts in the CESA I area are actively engaged in this exciting work.

Wisconsin is also a national leader in the development of charter schools to promote innovation and change in student learning. Wisconsin's charter schools challenge traditional ideas about education and promote "outside the box" thinking. One strategy that many charter schools use is to design a school around the needs of its students. Called personalized learning, it is a way of student-centered teaching that focuses on student achievement and encourages student voice in their own learning. It uses learner profiles and creates customized learning paths for students to follow, requiring students to show mastery of topics or tasks before they can move on to the next topic or task.

These are just a few examples of innovative learning in Wisconsin schools, all of which are geared toward helping every child graduate college and career ready.

For more information go to: [https://sites.google.com/a/dpi.wi.gov/wi\\_digital\\_learning\\_plan/home](https://sites.google.com/a/dpi.wi.gov/wi_digital_learning_plan/home) and/or for charter schools: [dpi.wi.gov/sms/csindex.html](http://dpi.wi.gov/sms/csindex.html)

**Wisconsin's Innovation Lab Network and the state's charter schools are just two of our focused efforts in bringing innovation to the classroom.**