

BIG
PICTURE
LEARNING

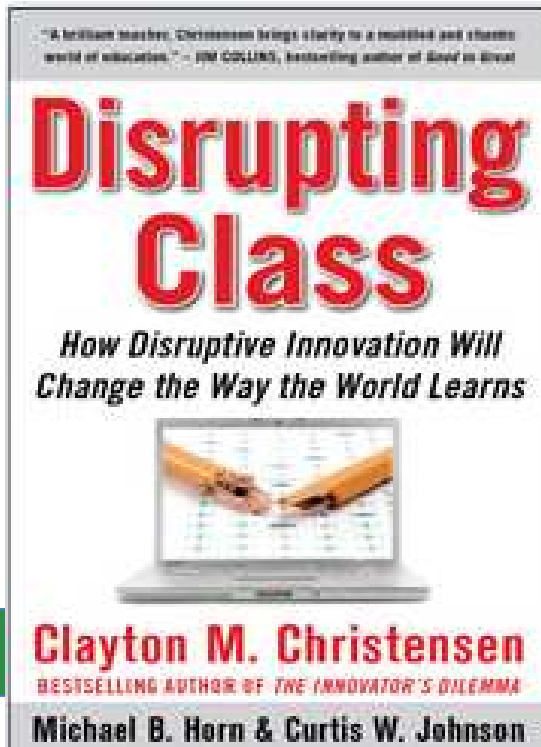


The official policy on noticing kids and their dreams and efforts to do real things in the real world FW





“Big Picture Learning is a perfect example of a heavyweight team that has redefined—indeed, revolutionized— schooling. By bringing students and their interests to the forefront, Big Picture Learning is a model of student-centered learning, which is key to intrinsically motivating students to provide them with the education they deserve.”



Clayton M. Christensen,
Harvard Business School





Relationships

Advisor

Relevance

Rigor

MetWest Weekly Schedule 2005-06



8:30

Monday
Advisory

Tuesday

Wednesday
Advisory

Thursday

Friday
Advisory

8:30

9:00

9:30

9:30

10:00

10:00

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Independent Work Time, Literature Seminars, Workshops, Laney Classes, MetWest Math	
Lunch (12-12:45)	
Independent Work Time, Literature Seminars, Workshops, Laney Classes, MetWest Math	
Advisory	

LTIs: Learning Through Internships

Independent Work Time, Literature Seminars, Workshops, Laney Classes, MetWest Math
Lunch (12-12:45)
Independent Work Time, Literature Seminars, Workshops, Laney Classes, MetWest Math
Staff Meetings T: 7:30 – 8:15 a.m. W: Grade Level Teams 1:00-2:00 p.m. All Staff 2:00 – 3:30 Th: 8:00 – 8:15 a.m. 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

LTIs: Learning Through Internships

Independent Work Time
Lunch (12-12:45)
Town Hall (12:45-1:30)
Active Electives
Advisory



Non-Cognitive Variables

- Self- Concept
- Realistic Self- Appraisal
- Handling System/Racism
- Long- Range Goals
- Leadership
- Strong Support Person
- Community
- Nontraditional Learning



Harvard Longitudinal Study

“What we do affects how we feel just as much as what we feel affects how we do.” Vaillant

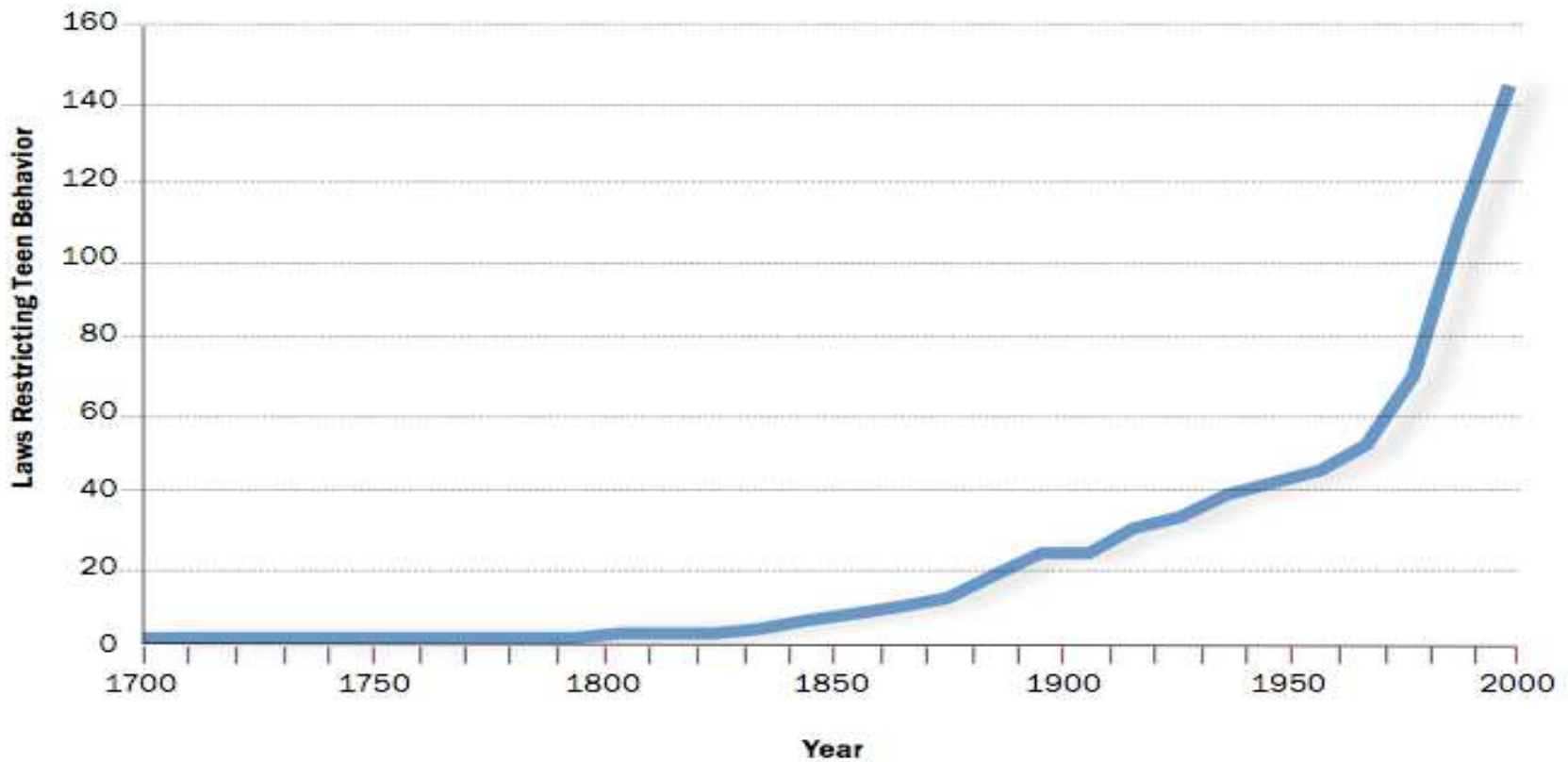
- Education
- Stable relationship
- Not smoking
- Not abusing alcohol
- Some exercise
- Healthy weight
- Employing mature adaptations

BIG PICTURE



Laws restricting the behavior of young people (under age 18) have grown rapidly in the past century, according to a survey by the author. He found that

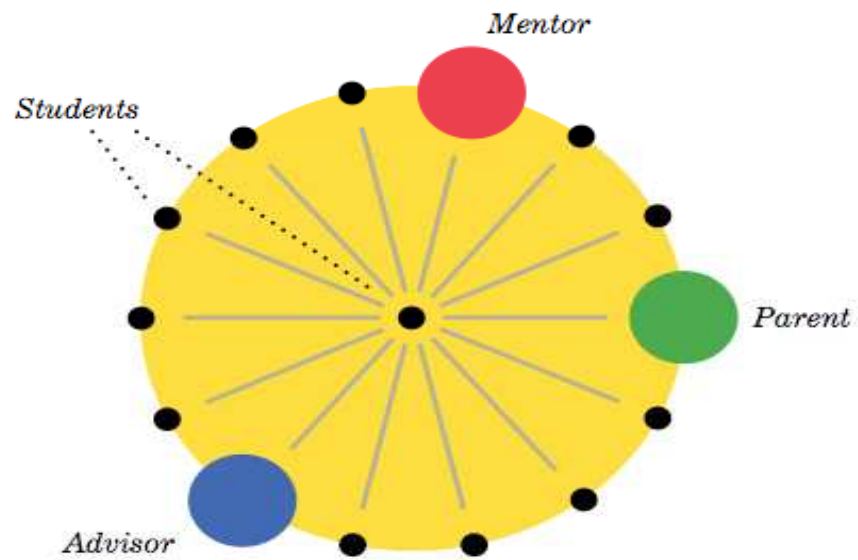
U.S. teens have 10 times as many restrictions as adults, twice as many as active-duty U.S. marines and twice as many as incarcerated felons.



SOURCE: THE CASE AGAINST ADOLESCENCE, BY ROBERT EPSTEIN (QUILL DRIVER BOOKS, 2007)



The Big Picture Learning Method





Essentials for Learning

Relationships: Do my teachers care about me and my interests?

Relevance: Do I find what the school is teaching to be relevant?

Choice: Will I be able to choose what, when, and how I will learn?

Challenge: Do I feel sufficiently challenged in doing this learning and work?

Practice: Will I have an opportunity to engage in serious practice of those skills I wish to learn?

Play: Will I have opportunities to explore and to make mistakes without being chastised for failing?

Authenticity: Will the learning and work I do be regarded as significant outside of schools?

Application: Will I have opportunities to apply what I am learning in real-world situations?

Time: Will there be sufficient time for me to learn at my own pace?

Timing: Can I pursue my learning out of the standard sequence?



Bloom's Continuum



Aspirations

Technique

Mastery

Big Picture Schools

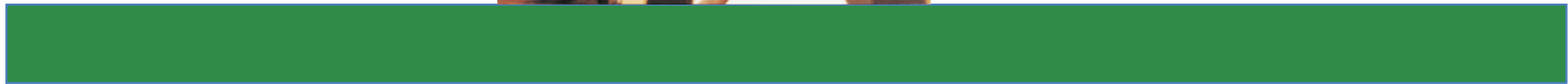
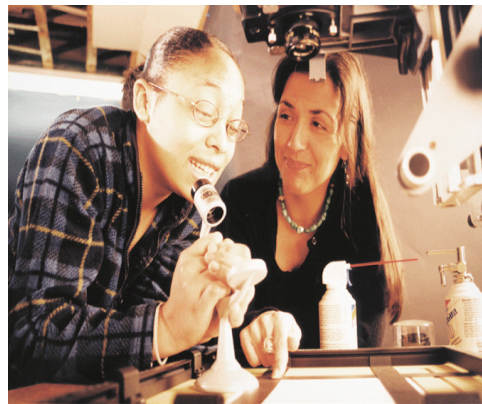


Learning through
Interests

Real-World
Projects

Certificates &
Credentials

Objects of Interest – Dewey and Bruner





The Apple Store the new Drop-in Center



Big Picture Learning

Symposia



To best serve 18-24 year olds who need to be reconnected to education, jobs, health and social services - let's begin with the voices of the student and work our way out to impact policy. In most cases, change is made at the policy level and never gets past R & D to take root in students' lives.



We seek to use stories, images and data to create a clearer picture of what disconnected youth need to become reconnected members of their communities.

BIG PICTURE LEARNING



Big Picture Learning *Symposia*

After getting left back I had a huge disconnect. The Met was a wake-up call. Exploring new things like journalism, poetry and photography.

School never caught my attention. I was kicked out of high school for fighting. But I was the first person in my Big Picture school to get an internship. I've known I wanted to be an entrepreneur since I was in diapers. I love it. Something that keeps me going is working.


STUDENT VOICES

One major issue was attendance because I didn't like school. I was in the habit of not going to school and getting into fights. I didn't have enough credits so I dropped out - But I decided to come back to do something with my life. My teachers and principal are making me the better person that I want to be.

I get to figure out what I want to do now. The internships are really what pulled me in. This is the best part of my life so far. I feel really connected to my education. I like the idea of the advisory --- we're a community

DISCONNECTIONS

work chaos • family disconnection
going from m.s. to h.s. • moving
unconnected schooling • leaving college
not pursuing my interests • job hunt
no adult support • big high school
getting left back • lack of credits • having
a baby • family illness

RECONNECTIONS

coming together as a group • family
working with others • travel
small school communities • internships
teaching • church • self-reflection
working with kids • play • getting married

Big Picture Learning

Symposia

I loved to write short stories at home. But none of it counted for school. The size of the school was really intimidating and I couldn't get any personal attention there.

My lack of credits and the fact that no one knew me there (in H.S.) made it hard to go back. The school let students like me slide out the back door to keep their test scores up.


STUDENT VOICES
(continued)

Dropping out of school was intentional, but I wasn't aware of the intentionality. What it comes down to is being really scared, desperate, and not knowing what to do. Advice can get you so far but only if you can do it. There is no one solution, things are always going to be both good and bad and I have to deal with that and take action.

YOU CAN'T STOP THE DISCONNECT. THE IMPORTANT THING IS ACCESS TO RECONNECT.

data

images

stories

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BIG PICTURE LEARNING

