

Herbert Hoover Elementary

Flexible/Active Seating
in the Classroom



First, we would like to thank the following people for allowing us to be here and share our excitement tonight!



Board of Education



Superintendent, Dawn Mirand



Assistant Superintendent, Robin Zymroz

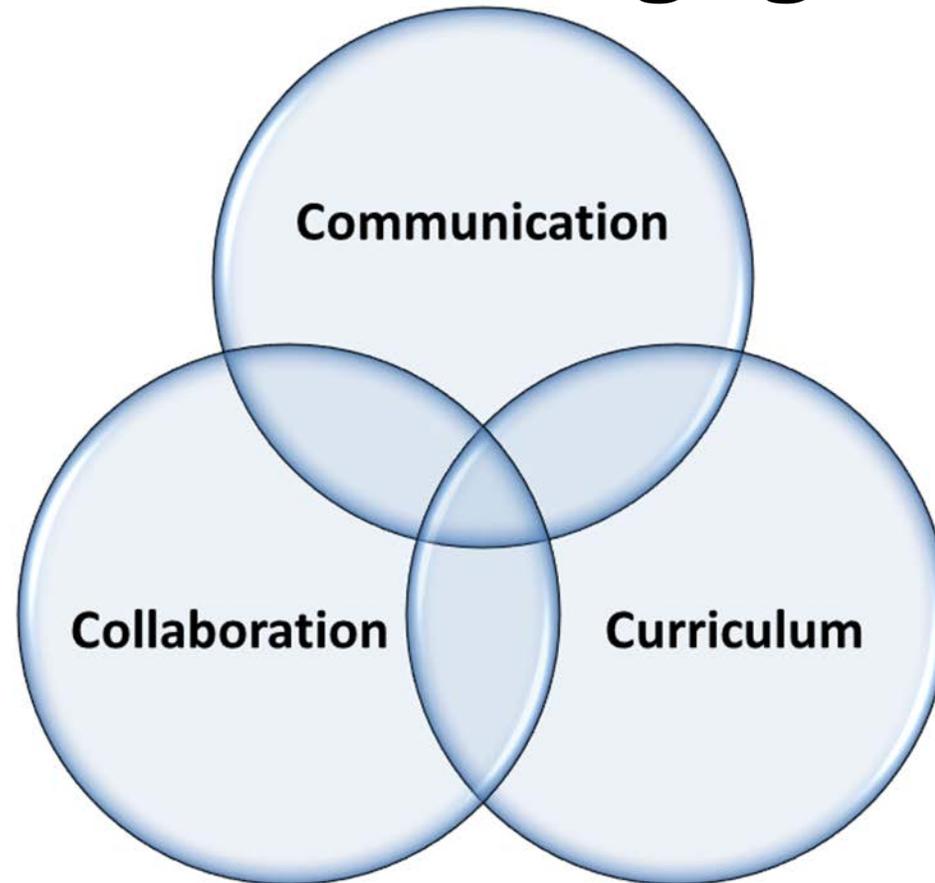


Director of Elementary Education, Dr. Heather Lyon



B & G/Custodial Staff

**How do we create conditions
for student engagement?**



Here's what...

How do we define engagement?

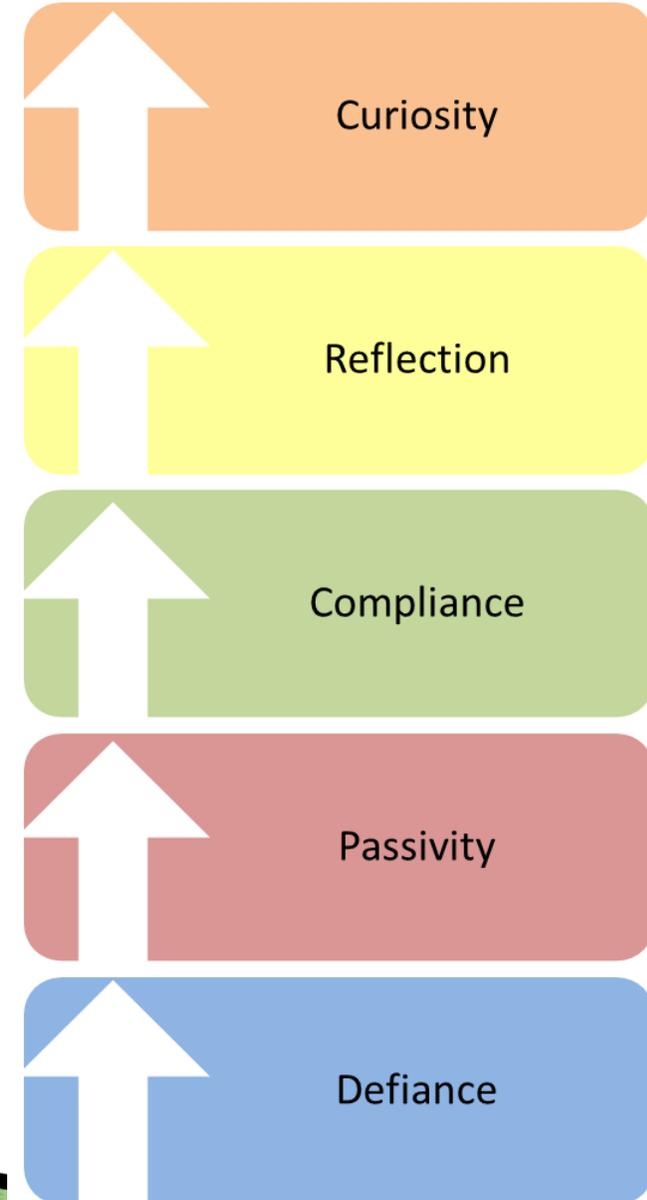
Students show sustained behavioral involvement in learning activities accompanied by a positive emotional tone.



What are we doing to promote student engagement at Hoover elementary school?

Chapman, Elaine, (September 2003). *Assessing Student Engagement Rates*, ERIC Clearinghouse on Assessment and Evaluation, Retrieved from <http://www.ericdigests.org>

Engagement Ladder



Here's How...



Flexible Seating

Flexible seating: Seating in which students are given choices that are alternatives to the standard school chair.

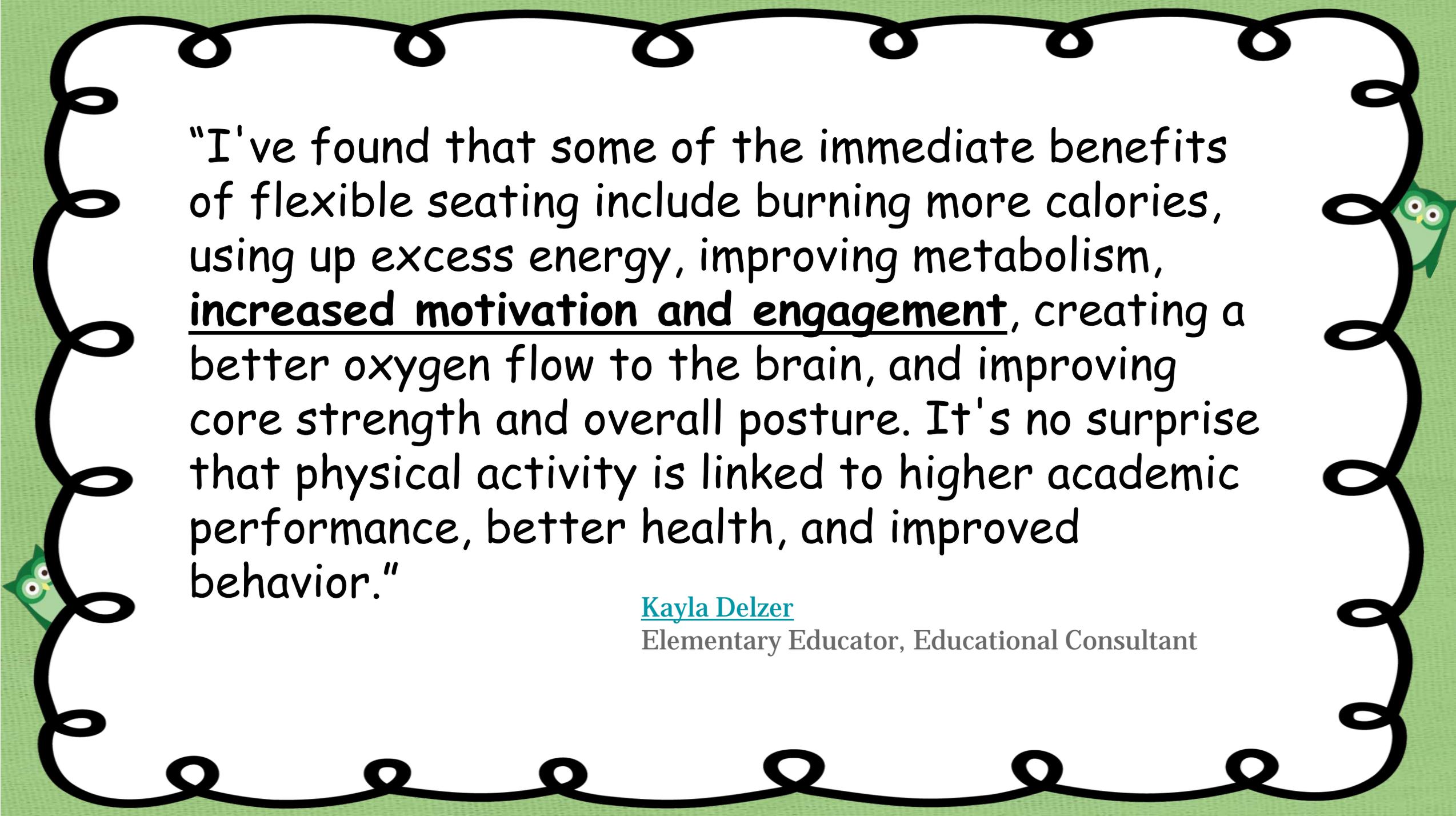


Where did we start...



The idea was born
out of a student
centered approach
to learning
AND this chair!





"I've found that some of the immediate benefits of flexible seating include burning more calories, using up excess energy, improving metabolism, increased motivation and engagement, creating a better oxygen flow to the brain, and improving core strength and overall posture. It's no surprise that physical activity is linked to higher academic performance, better health, and improved behavior."

[Kayla Delzer](#)

Elementary Educator, Educational Consultant

Where did we start...

We were intrigued by the Node Chair and how it was already affecting our classrooms.

On one of Superintendent Mirand's visits to our school she shared an article from Edutopia regarding flexible seating. She also brought up the idea of using Donors Choose to help with the funding.



DonorsChoose

Nonprofit organization

Connecting the Public
to Public Schools!

What is DonorsChoose?

DonorsChoose.org is a United States-based 501 nonprofit organization that allows individuals to donate directly to public school classroom projects.

In other words our projects were fulfilled by people that gave tax deductible donations to help support our classrooms.

Some donors include:

- ❖ Target Corporation
- ❖ Gates Foundation
- ❖ Craig Newmark (founder of Craigslist)
- ❖ Pam Wickham (CCO at Raytheon)

Also some teachers,
friends, & family!



Items Received through DonorsChoose Mrs. Smith's Room

- Kore Patented WOBBLE Chair(5)
- ECR4Kids SoftZone Adult Carry Me Cubes(5)
- Wacces Athletic Inflatable Twist Massage Balance Board(5)
- Gaiam Balance Ball Chair(4)
- Safco Products 4750BL Zenergy Ball Chair(3)
- Milliard Anti-Burst Peanut Ball (1)
- Bouncy Bands for Desks(6)

Total= \$2,663.09





Mrs. Smith's Classroom

Items Begin Arriving!!





Impact on Instruction Mrs. Smith's Classroom

Putting them
into action!!



“That Wobble Stool is perfect for my son! He can't even sit still during dinner!”
Parent Quote

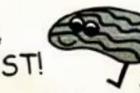


Impact on Students

Mrs. Smith's Classroom



Flexible Seating Rules

1. Choose a "Smart Seat" that helps you do your BEST work! 
2. Use each seat the right way. 
3. If you wish to sit by a friend, you must be working QUIETLY. 
4. If a spot is not working for you, MOVE so that you can do your BEST! 
5. Put your supplies away when you're finished. 
6. Flexible Seating is a privilege. The teacher can move anyone at any time. 

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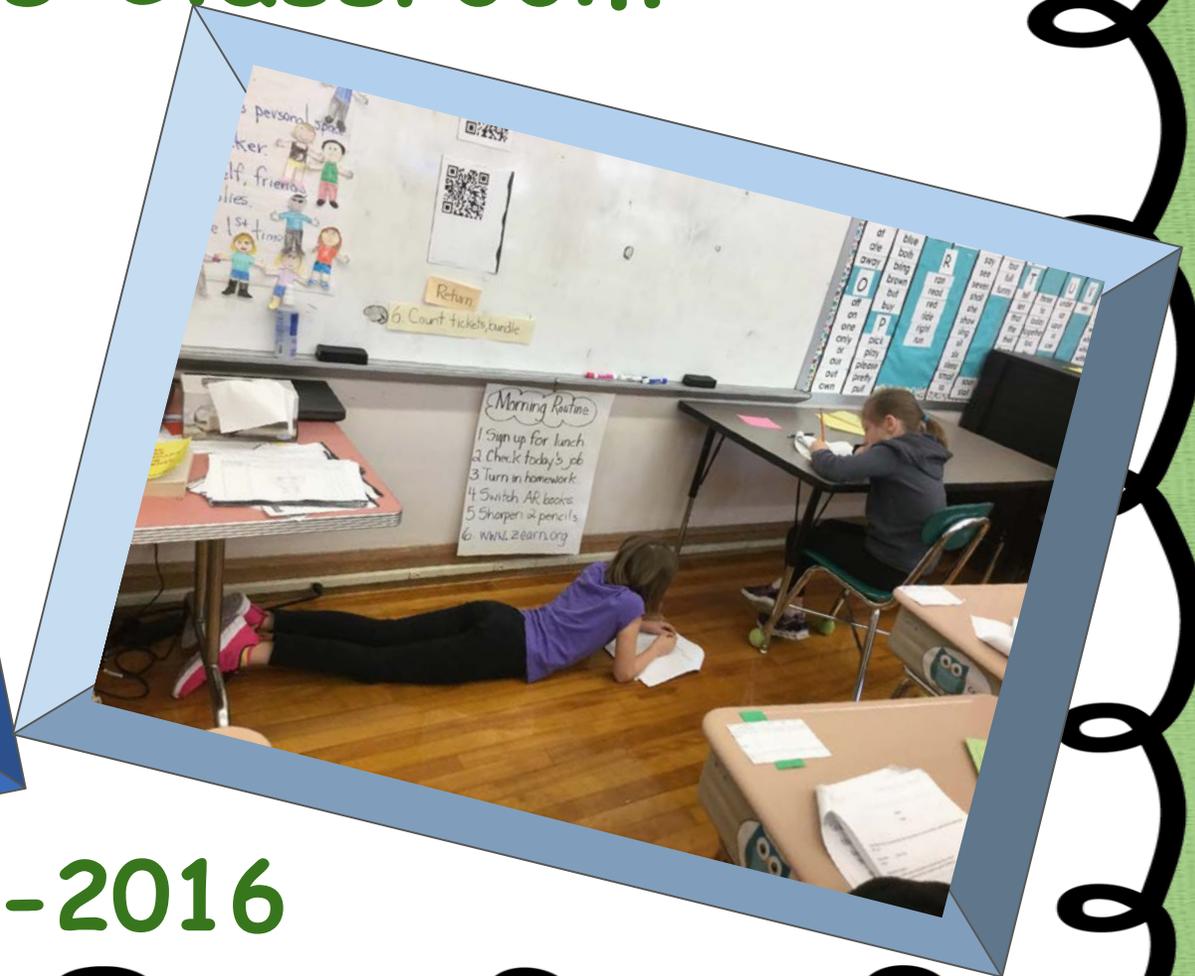
The best seat is the one where you WORK the best!

Lily: " I like flexible seating because when I am in a regular chair I have a hard time staying focused, in these chairs I don't."

Jacob: "I can't sit still, these seats help me learn better."

Layla: "When I am in a normal chair and desk, I stay focused just to be straight, when I sit in these chairs I can focus more on my work than on sitting straight and still."

Impact on Instruction Mrs. Mercer's Classroom



2015-2016

Impact on Instruction

Mrs. Mercer's Classroom



2016-2017

\$1,868
from 3 DC
projects



Impact on Mrs. Mercer's Classroom



Impact on Instruction in Ms. Chiavaroli's Classroom

Flexible Seating Rules:



1. FOLLOW ALL THE REGULAR CLASSROOM RULES.

2. CHOOSE A SEAT THAT WILL ALLOW YOU TO DO YOUR BEST WORK.

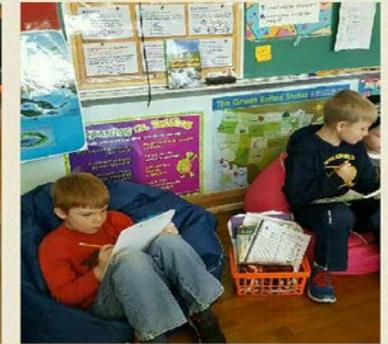
3. TAKE CARE OF ALL SEATS AND SUPPLIES.

4. CHOOSE DIFFERENT SEATING IF YOU CANNOT GET YOUR WORK DONE WHERE YOU ARE.

5. MS. CHIAVAROLI RESERVES THE RIGHT TO CHOOSE YOUR SEAT TO HELP YOU LEARN.



PIC•COLLAGE



PIC•COLLAGE

Now What?

We have had other teachers visit these classrooms and are beginning to ask about implementing some of these elements into their own classrooms.

Teachers are inquiring about using Donors Choose to fund their projects.

Mr. Fanelli is interested in visiting our classrooms and promoting what we are doing throughout the community.

We have even been approached by a Buffalo News reporter about our classrooms and our teacher's drive to best help our Kenton students.

We are also looking objectively at quantitative and qualitative data.

Questions?

