

Odyssey:

A Schoolwide Enrichment Program at FRES



Odyssey Goals

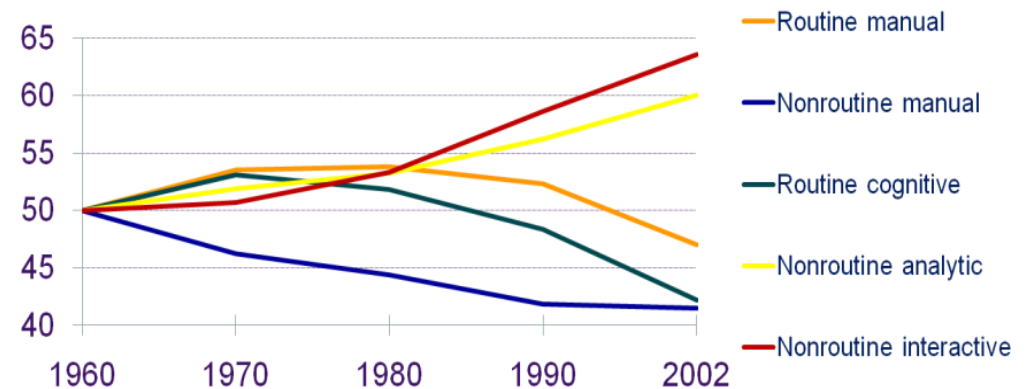
Developing the individual talents of students using prior knowledge as a starting point to stimulate problem solving and innovation while creating new knowledge.

Improving academic success for all students.

Enhancing curriculum activities to engage students in meaningful and enjoyable learning.

Providing resources to promote continuous growth and excellence in faculty.

How is the demand for skills changing?



“The dilemma for schools is that the skills that are easiest to teach and test are also the ones that are easiest to digitize, automate, and outsource.”

(Source: Levy and Murnane)

From Inspiration to Reality

Launch Team:

Brianna Lavalley, Wanda Meagher, Tara Roper, Julie Lemire, Pam Griffin, Amanda Luter

Met during the summer & through the fall.

The Odyssey Instruction Leaders:

Diana Zoltko, Kristina Levick, Wanda Meagher, Tammy Cargill, Pam Griffin, Amanda Luter, & Fritz Shenk

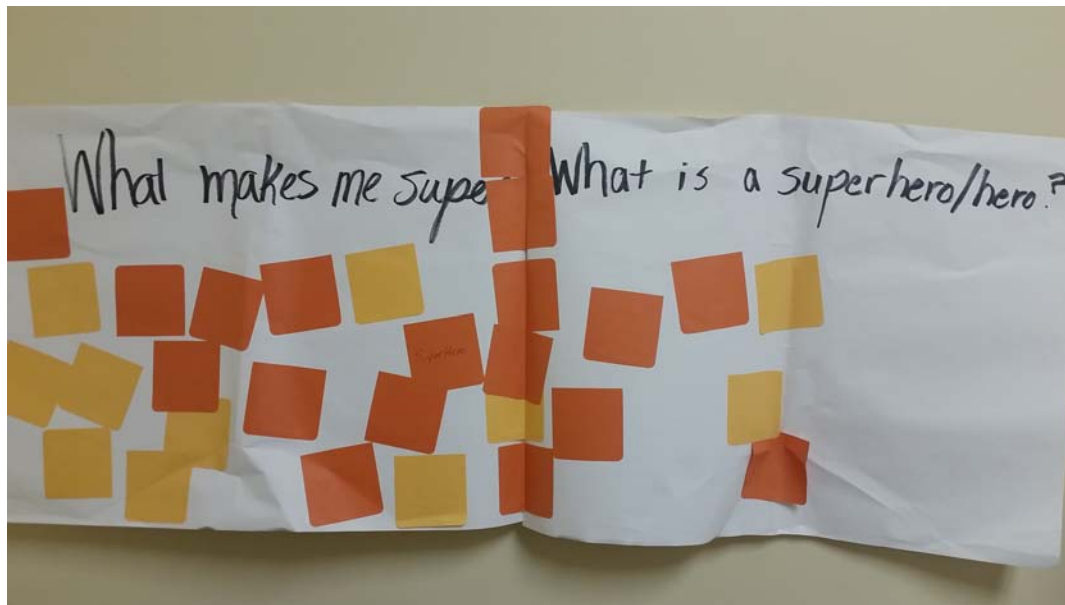
Met weekly to learn the program & design the clusters.

The Program Components

- Grade Level
- Student choice of activities
- 8 sessions
- Weekly*
- 45 minutes 8:55-9:40 AM
- Student driven; not teacher directed

The Beginning: Theme

Faculty selected theme for first round of Odyssey: *Finding the Super in Me*



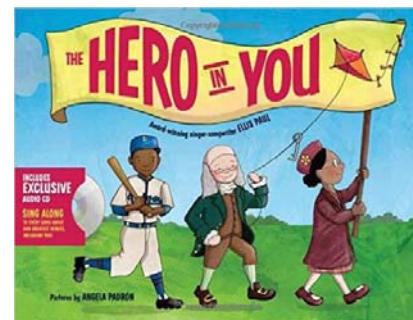
The Grand Kickoff Event: Captain O & the League of Outstanding Citizens

FRES students engaged in “super hero” activities prior to selecting their Odyssey clusters:

- Decorated classroom doors with a super hero theme.
- Read the book *The Hero in You* by Paul Ellis and Angela Padron.
- Learned to sing the song that accompanies the book.
- Visited by The League of Outstanding Citizens, people in our community whose contributions to our towns and schools make them super.

Principal O’Connell (Captain O) read to the school the book:

What Do You Do With an Idea?



The Clusters

After the Kickoff event

Students selected clusters that interested them...

Parent Volunteers

Teacher Tara Roper organized parent volunteers to assist with the clusters. Mrs. Roper provided training and set up a schedule.



Our Enrichment program started in early November. We are currently in our first 8 week session and will begin a second session after the winter break. This program will give students the opportunity to work on long range projects based on an area of interest. We are looking for volunteers to assist the lead teachers during the enrichment sessions, which run throughout the week. If you are interested, please submit your contact information below. Mrs. Roper will follow up with you via email.

Name	Email	Contact Number

The Response

Classroom teacher: “ My students come back from enrichment so excited and wanting to share what they are doing.”

Odyssey instructional leader: “The second class I had the students just come in and get started. And they did!”

Student: “It’s awesome. I like to be creative and we get to express ourselves.”

Volunteer: “The students are having so much fun. But it is a lot more work than I expected. You can’t just direct a student; you have to ask questions to guide them along.”

Parent: “My child loves it.”

Rewards & Challenges

REWARDS

Student engagement

Enthusiasm

Collaboration

Independence

CHALLENGES

Time to prepare/plan

Time to collaborate

Overcoming indoctrination to
“school”

Cluster sizes

Next Steps

Launch Team continues it work....

Currently planning culminating event

Documenting the program

Goals for next year:

Including classroom teachers in the Odyssey experience

2017-2018:

Schoolwide program continues

Add a program for targeted students

Get support from a G&T expert

