

Open Learning Portfolio System

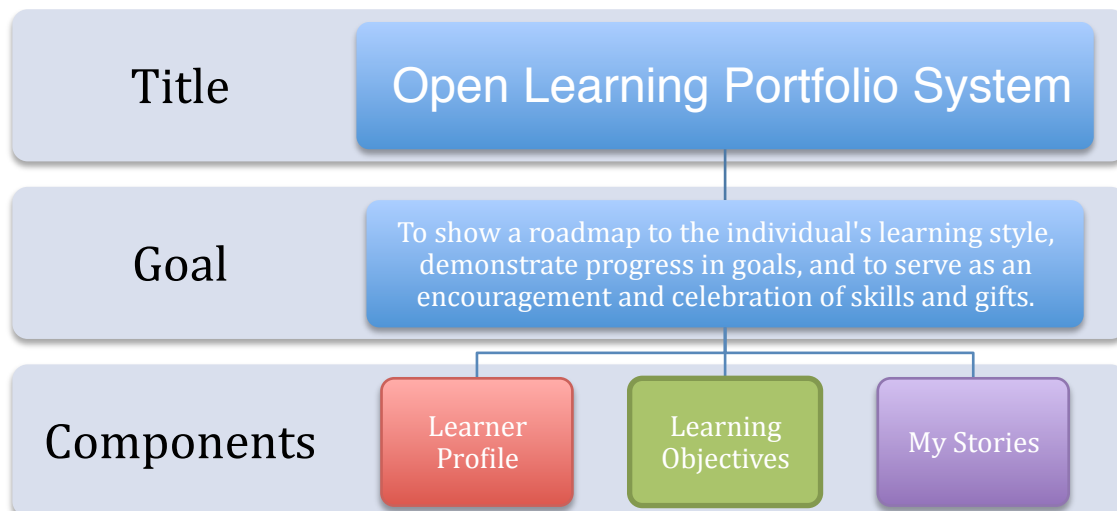
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Introduction

In the one room schoolhouse of yesteryear, there were children of differing ages, with varying learning profiles, and vastly different learning objectives. State and district multiple choice, diagnostic systems (supposedly diagnostic) may be easily scored, disseminated, and interpreted by a microcomputer application. Yet, for all learners a better, assessment system, or possibly more correctly put, information system, is far superior. What is the point of assessment? I believe that it is so that the learner and their teachers know where they are at and where they are going.

Utilizing good design and presentation in an increasingly digital age, is important to the successful information transfer process in special education. To many times, therapists and teachers look at the IEP document as a boring static “thing”. Alternate assessment portfolios have amazing potential and it is an overwhelming success that we are “on the ticket”. Yet, seemingly always, these things are done for “them” and not for the true benefit of the learner and the learning process. This portfolio system seeks to be for the learner, their family, and for the individuals and collectives that serve that learner. The goal is simple: show the learner and their teachers where they are at, where they came from, and where they are going. It is essentially similar to what the State Alternate Assessment systems should hope to be, but are unable to achieve because of the stigma created. To be successful, we will stay student focused, utilize multi-modal media, and good principles of design.



Outlined below is the default hierarchy for the portfolio system. Please feel free to adapt this system to meet your needs.

