

SEL in the Student-Driven Classroom

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The Learner-Active, Technology-Infused Classroom (LATIC) is a social learning environment that builds student responsibility for learning. It is a veritable playground for promoting Social and Emotional learning (SEL).

What does a typical moment look like in such a student-driven learning environment?
Students:

- Are excited to tackle developing a solution to a real-world problem as part of a collaborative team (“home group”).
- Review rubrics to determine what they already know and what they need to learn, and then set learning goals.
- Reference activity lists with differentiated learning opportunities and choose how they will learn.
- Create schedules for their day or week as to how they will use their time: individually, with a partner, and with a group.
- Keep track of time and move from one activity to another based on the schedules they created.
- Utilize the teacher, peers, and outside experts as resources in the learning process.
- Offer guidance and support to their colleagues in their mutual quest for learning.
- Self-assess using a “Great Student Rubric” for how to engage in a social, collaborative learning environment.

Now take a moment to map those to the five key competencies of Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) as defined by casel.org:

CASEL → ↓ LATIC	Self-Awareness	Self-Management	Responsible Decision-Making	Relationship Skills	Social Awareness
Home-Group Solution Design	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Rubric- Focused Goal Setting	✓	✓			
Choosing How to Learn	✓	✓		✓	
Scheduling Time	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Managing Time	✓	✓		✓	
Identify and Utilize Resources for Learning	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Support Peers in Learning	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Self-Assess Using a "Great Student Rubric"	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

When teachers increase student responsibility for learning; student engagement in collaborative, real-world problem-solving; and student voice and choice in the classroom; they design learning environments that requires students to increase their skills in self-awareness, self-management, responsible decision-making, working relationships, and social awareness. In building these critical skills, they are preparing students for life in and out of school across their lives.