

## **A good idea gone bad...**

It's interesting how a good idea can go bad. As we have continued to study current research and implement best practices, we have seen a significant number of "good ideas gone bad," or you might call them "non-examples," along the way. A school or district may actually have a sound idea to pursue, but for a number of reasons it falls short of making a difference for students.

One such example is the misguided definition and interpretation of *personalized learning*. Personalization is one of the five identified principles in our DMUSD District Design 2022. These principles leverage our work, therefore, we have heightened interest in any relevant and related research.

There has been recent backlash, with which I agree, associated with misguided understanding about personalized learning, specifically, using those words interchangeably with "computer-based learning." According to the New York Post, students in Brooklyn's Secondary School for Journalism walked out of school for an hour recently to protest the use of a web-based program that forced them "to stare at computers for hours and 'teach ourselves.'" This is exactly what we do NOT want. Personalization via a computer is NOT how we define meeting individual student's needs.