Leveraging Student Strengths through Project-Based Learning and Authentic Assessment

Project-based learning and authentic assessment are student-centered practices which encourage in-depth learning through activities that foster student collaboration, creativity, and critical thinking. In a project-based learning environment students are guided toward the discovery of personal meaning and application of new knowledge to situations beyond school. Authentic assessment goes beyond the traditional paper and pencil test. It can include demonstrations and performance tasks that aim to build on every student’s strengths. Especially relevant in the digital era, where data is applicable to almost everything we do, these practices can foster research and critical literacy skills as well as agency and social capital, which are more important than ever for our students.

We call for article proposals from educators across disciplines and grade levels that highlight these exciting practices in your school or classroom, or from academic collaboration in higher education with P–12 partners.

Examples of submission areas include (but are not limited to):

- Project-based learning
- Authentic assessment
- Authentic learning
- Portfolio assessment
- Capstone projects
- Performance assessment
- Integrated thematic units
- Student-directed learning
- Problem-based learning
- Interdisciplinary learning
- Inquiry-based learning
- Teaching with multiple intelligence theory
- Arts and science integration STEAM/STEM
- Higher education research and practice on authentic learning and assessment
CALL FOR ARTICLE PROPOSALS FOR EDUCATOR’S VOICE, VOL. XIV

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PROPOSAL GUIDELINES

Please tell us about your proposal by referencing each of the following nine elements (approximately 2–5 pages) and submit to NYSUT by Aug. 5, 2020. Please include the element titles.

Be sure to complete the author submission sheet and send it in with your proposal.

1) Title: What is the working title for your article?

2) Topic: What do you plan to write about? What practice or program will your article focus on? (Please provide specifics about school(s), grade levels, etc.)

3) Relevance: Why is this practice relevant to the theme of this year’s volume on project-based learning and authentic assessment? Why is this topic important to you?

4) Setting: Describe your setting and the student population(s) involved in the practice or programs.

5) Practice: Describe the practice or program and your method or approach.

6) Outcomes: What are the intended outcomes or indicators of success and how do you plan to measure or observe them?

7) Research Base: Describe the academic research base that supports your practice. (Please provide specific examples/citations.)

8) Diversity: How does your practice address the needs of diverse populations?

9) Collaboration: Explain how your practice involves collaboration with parents or other members of the school community.

Deadlines for Volume XIV:

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<tr>
<td>Aug. 5, 2020</td>
<td>Proposal submission deadline</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 14, 2020</td>
<td>NYSUT responds to proposal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 16, 2021</td>
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Author Submission Form

Name of Author(s) (If multiple authors, select one author as the primary contact person). At least one author must be a NYSUT (or affiliate) member. Please spell out all information, do not use acronyms. All fields are required.

Primary author’s name: ________________________________________________
NYSUT member? Yes ____ No ____
Other union affiliation: ________________________________________________
Name of school: _____________________________________________________
School/district location: _______________________________________________
Current position (title and grade level/s): _________________________________

Primary Author CONTACT INFO (all fields are required)

Email address: ______________________________________________________
Alternate email address: _____________________________________________
Telephone number: _________________________________________________
Alternate telephone number (required): _________________________________
Home address: _____________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________

Additional author’s name: _____________________________________________
NYSUT member? Yes ____ No ____
Other union affiliation: ______________________________________________
Name of school: _____________________________________________________
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Information can be submitted electronically to:
Leah.Lembo@nysut.org

Or by mail to:
NYSUT Research & Educational Services
Attn: Educator’s Voice
800 Troy-Schenectady Road
Latham, NY 12110
Call for Article Proposals for Educator’s Voice, Vol. XIV

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Editorial Guidelines

Grade and Content Area: Author(s) can describe practices or programs in any grades (P–20) on the topic of project-based learning and authentic assessment.

Audience: This is a practitioner journal. Our readers include teachers, school-related professionals, pupil personnel services providers, union leaders, parents, administrators, higher education faculty, researchers, legislators, and policymakers. For examples, please browse previous volumes of Educator’s Voice.

Please write your article to the practitioner. Authors are encouraged to write in a direct style designed to be helpful to both practitioners and to others committed to strengthening education. All education terms (i.e., jargon, all acronyms) must be defined for a broad audience. For articles with multiple authors, use one voice consistently. Please limit the use of writing in the first person.

Article Length: The required article length is flexible. Please submit approximately 2,000–3,000 words (or 7–9 double-spaced pages plus references). This is just a range as every article is unique.

Rights: Acceptance of a proposal is not a guarantee of publication. Publication decisions are made by the Editorial Board. NYSUT retains the right to edit articles. The author will have the right to review changes and if not acceptable to both parties, the article will not be included in Educator’s Voice. NYSUT may also retain the article for use on the NYSUT website (nysut.org) or for future publication in NYSUT United.

Manuscript Basics:
- Use American Psychological Association (APA) 7th edition style for in-text citations and references.
- Do not use footnotes. Do not use MLA or Chicago publishing guidelines.
- Double-space your manuscript.

Graphics Guidelines:
- Embed all images or graphics into your manuscript. In addition, submit each graphic as a separate file.
- Save all images in high-resolution (300 dpi). Anything downloaded from a website will be low-resolution (72 dpi) and will not be acceptable. If using a cellphone camera, choose high quality settings.
- Any graphics (photographs, charts, tables, or samples of student work) must be submitted as separate attached PDF, TIFF, or JPEG files. Do not embed images into an email.
- We need permission to reprint artwork; include release forms to use images that feature people. Photos should illustrate the context, rather than the subject(s) looking posed.

Deadline for Proposals: Aug. 5, 2020