



Kid's need to learn to think on their feet, not just their seat.

- 1) Problem: Implementation time – School districts that began implementation 3 or 5 years ago have made great progress in imbedding the Grad Standards into the curriculum. But school districts that began last fall are in a crunch. Without sufficient time the Profile projects have simply landed on top of all the other school work.

Solution - CFL is establishing a system of administrative waivers that will allow districts to buy time to fully implement the Grad Standards. These are temporary waivers; ultimately all districts will meet the same standards.

- 2) Problem: Paperwork for assessment and tracking

Solution: A number of districts have developed web-based computer programs to simplify this process. CFL will have software available to all districts by November.

- The Grad standards build on basic skills, they don't replace them.
- We need statewide standards in schools in order to hold schools accountable. We can't be sure taxpayers' money is well spent without a system of accountability.
- Grad Standards and the profile projects are needed to prepare Minnesota students for the workplace demands of the 21st century
- The old school system was devised when most people worked on farms or in factories- - but now, 1000 family farms disappear each year in Minnesota, while 32,000 high tech jobs go unfilled.