

Building Quality Client-Connected Projects

December 16, 2021



EWING MARION
KAUFFMAN
FOUNDATION



GETTING SMART



Tom Vander Ark

Agenda

- 1 Welcome and Overview of MVAs
- 2 National Perspective
- 3 Local Perspective
- 4 Closing

Regionally-recognized Market Value Assets (MVAs)



work experiences

- Internships
- Client Projects



industry-recognized credentials

- Employer verified industry recognized credential



college credit

- 9+ hours



entrepreneurial experiences

- Solve compelling market problem

Client-Connected Projects (CCPs)



Students want to **learn what matters**. They need to know how their academic experience **connects** with their post secondary opportunities. Client-connected projects (CCPs) are **authentic problems** that students solve in **collaboration** with professionals from industry, not-for-profit, or community-based organizations. Working with these professionals, students are not only addressing real world problems, but also **developing essential skills**. CCPs are one of the key work experiences that may be recognized as a Market Value Asset.

Output of Client-Connected Projects



Learners analyze and solve authentic problems, working in collaboration with other learners and professionals from industry, not-for-profit, civic or community-based organizations.

1. Work involves **authentic methods and tools** used by professionals in the work environment.
2. Experience includes **mentoring and evaluation** by working professionals.
3. Output is viewed as a **value-add by external stakeholders**
And is resume-worthy.

Output of Entrepreneurial Experiences



Outputs of MVA-level entrepreneurial experiences include a market and stakeholder research summary, a ‘business plan’ that includes an assessment of costs and benefits associated with development or operation of their solution, and feedback from relevant external stakeholders obtained through exhibition or ‘shark-tank’ type pitch opportunities.

Launchpad for Client-Connected Projects



Embedded in a class

- Ray-Pec English 4

Embedded in a block (ELA + SS)

- Basehor-Linwood Innovation Academy, Notre Dame de Sion

Embedded in career academy pathways

- NKC, Belton High

Afterschool

- FFA, DECA

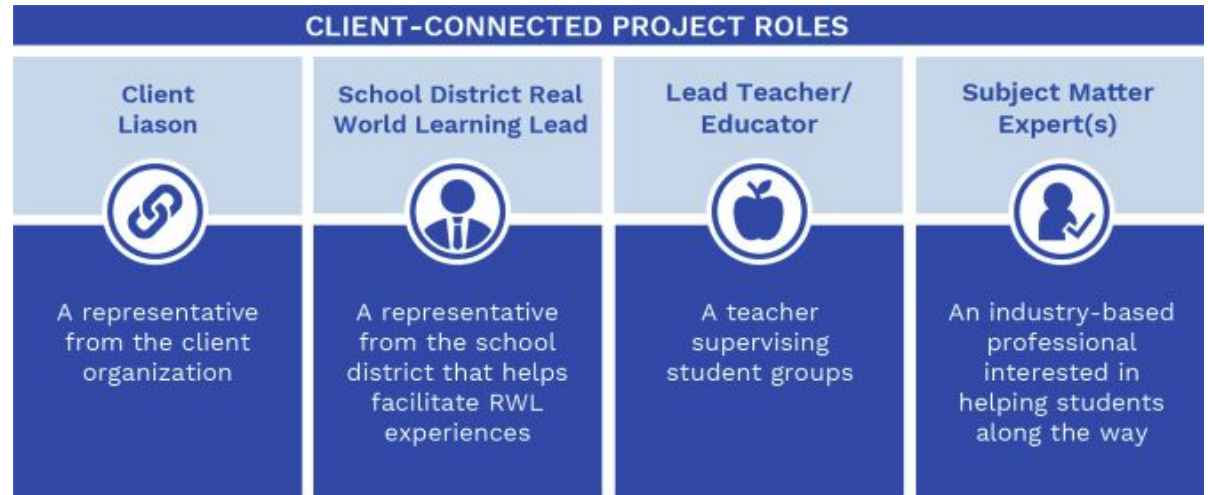
Summer

Help Students Develop Project Plans



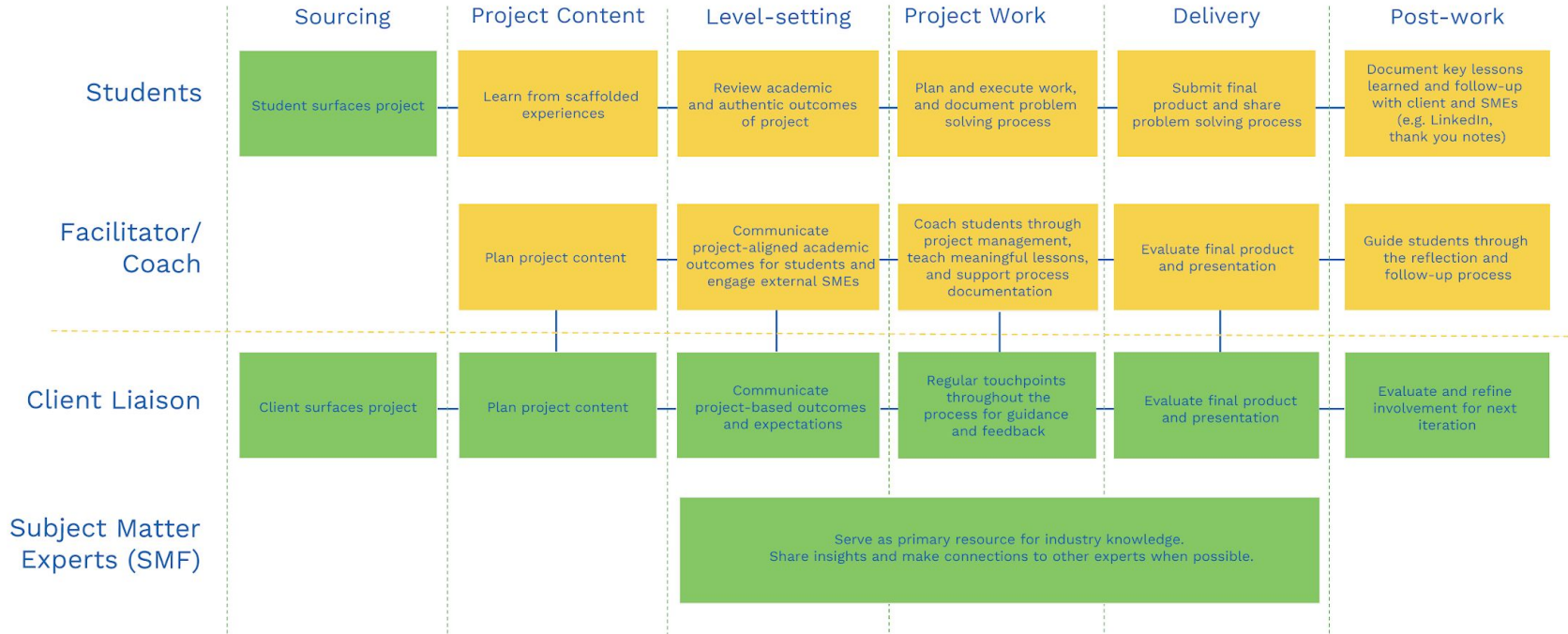
Project plan should include:

- Sponsor (client)
- Facilitator (teacher)
- Student(s)
- Goal
- Steps
- Timeline
- Resources
- Deliverables
- Assessment
- Reflection



Planning the Process

Consider this process outline as you plan the phases, roles, and respective activities throughout the project. Prior to starting this process, the teacher, course and learning objectives have been defined and mapped to necessary standards.



Planning Considerations



Evaluate Work

- What work is available?
- Is work appropriate for student involvement?
- Which work optimizes student and organizational needs?
- Who would be most appropriate to serve as the primary client contact?

Set Goals

- What would make this experience a success for the employer?
- Which essential skills can be developed?
 - o Communication
 - o Collaboration
 - o Critical Thinking
 - o Interpersonal
 - o Proactivity
 - o Executive Function

Set Expectations

- Establish project parameters to help students understand the project and plan execution
 - o Problem Statement
 - o Student Goals
 - o Engagement with SMEs
 - o Feedback & Reflection Cycle
 - o Documentation of Approach
 - o Finished Product

Create Timeline

- Establish key milestones for students
- Ideate back-up plans for any surprises

Estimated Time Investment



Client-connected Projects are authentic problems which students solve in collaboration with professionals from industry, not-for-profit, or community-based organizations.

Projects should require at least 24 hours of work, with at least 4 hours engaged directly with the client.

TIME INVESTMENT SUMMARY

Project Sponsor	Facilitator	Students	SMEs
4 hours	~6 hours	24 hours	~2 hours

Value of CCPs



Client-Connected Projects provide value for:

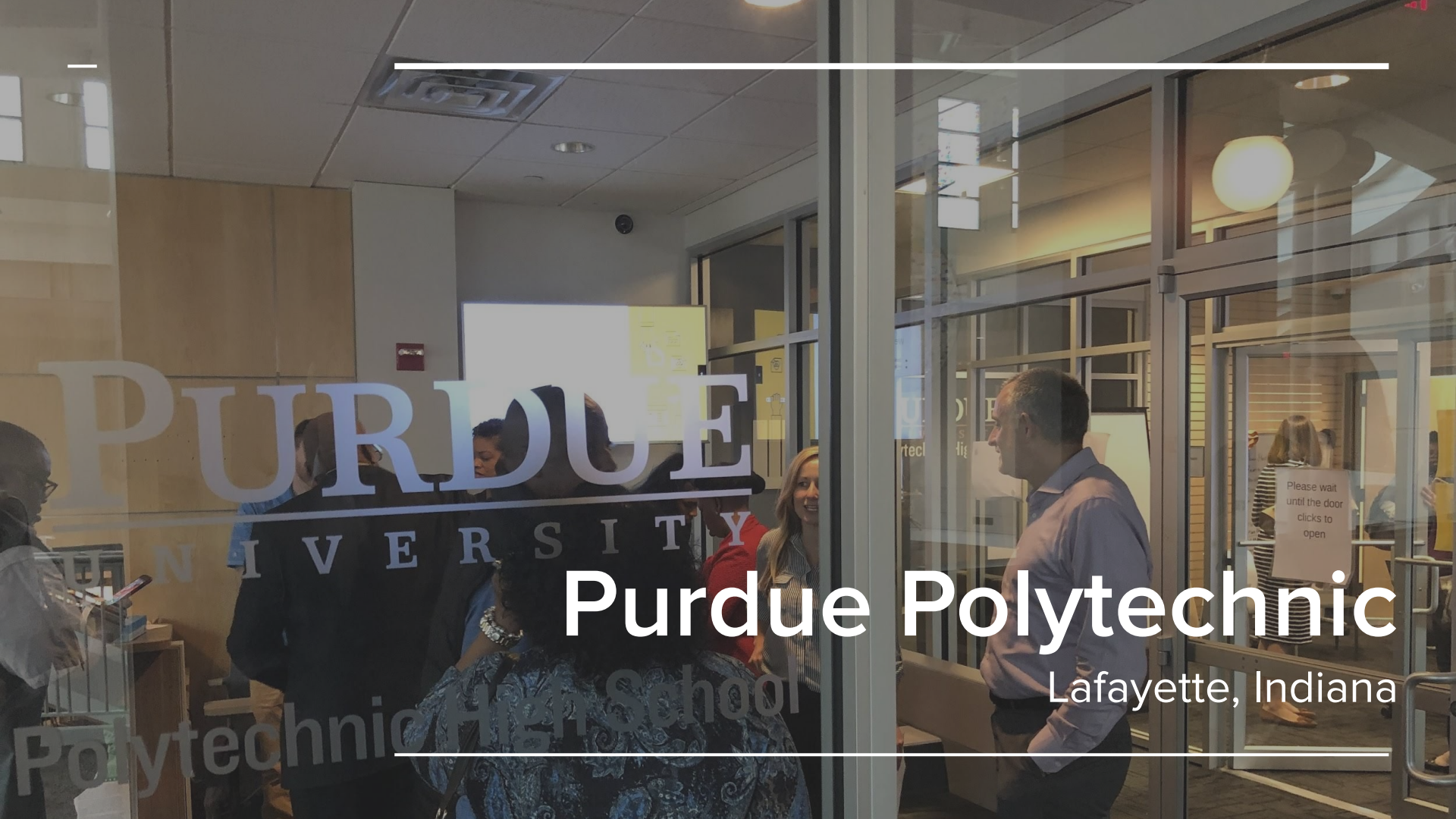
CLIENT/EMPLOYER	STUDENTS	EDUCATORS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Access to emerging talent• Increased awareness of client organization• Leadership development for the client liaison• Increased bandwidth for important but non-urgent project completion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Authentic project work• Increase in professional network• School credit in real-world setting• Potential stepping stone for future internship	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Authentic project prompts/problems• Exposure to industry trends and expectations• Students are more engaged in topic with real-world context.

*a Market Value Asset is an industry valued and recognized skill that creates a seamless transition post-high school.

Client-Connected Projects



- Purdue Polytechnic High
- Energy Institute High
- High Tech High
- Crosstown High
- New Tech Network
- Iowa Big



PURDUE

UNIVERSITY

Purdue Polytechnic

Lafayette, Indiana

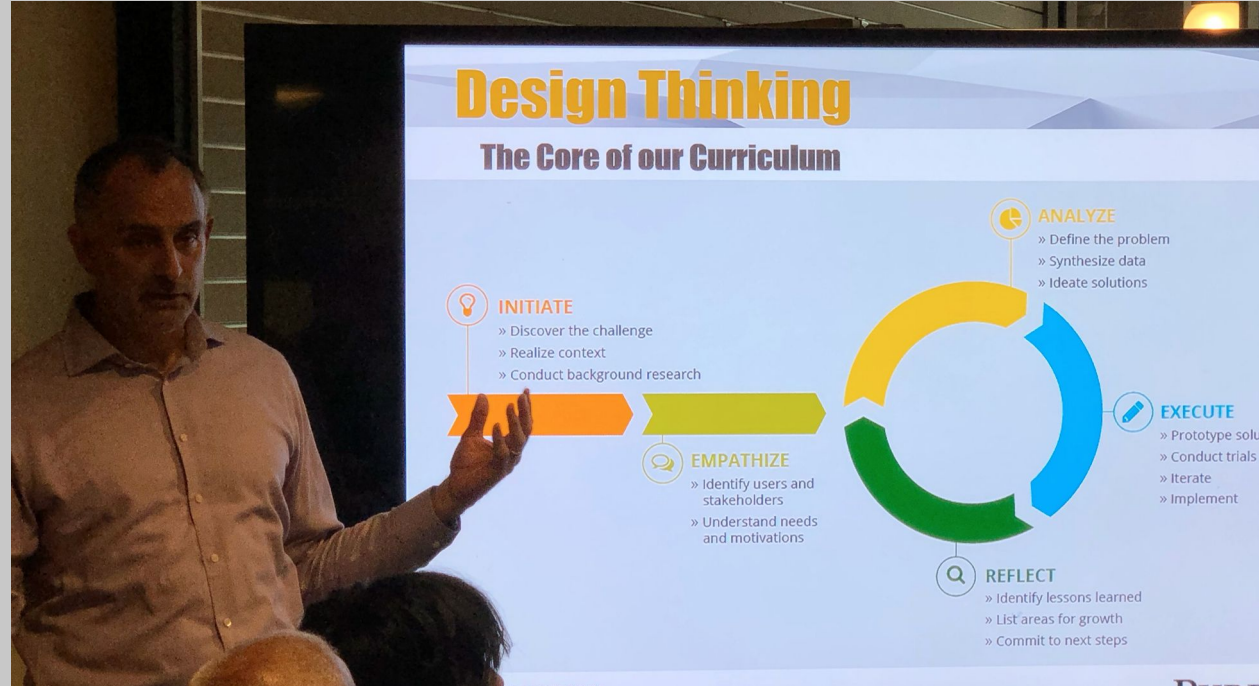
Polytechnic High School

Purdue Polytechnic

Design thinking and
community challenges

Students, teachers or
industry partners create
project proposals that
address competencies

Every cycle have between
25 and 35 Passion Projects
available that students bid



Year 1



How might we use emerging technologies to reshape an existing or future industry?



How might we move people or products farther, faster, cheaper, and more efficiently?



How might we optimize a machine?



How does Indiana develop a connected and viable transportation infrastructure?



How might we power the world's innovation with great efficiency and access?



How might we create or enhance products or services to help community members lead healthier lives?



Year 2



How might technology take one of your solutions from Year 1 to the next level?



How might we move people or products farther, faster, cheaper and more efficiently?



How might we create or enhance products or services to help community members lead healthier lives?



How might we create new and better food sources to feed nine billion people by 2050?



How might we extend the healthy human lifespan worldwide?



How do we allocate \$500 billion to meet the world's biggest challenges?



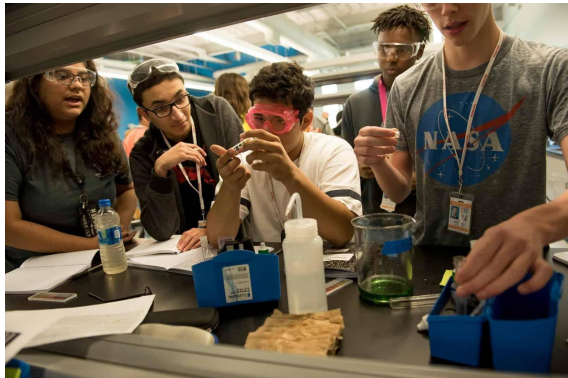
The image shows the Energy Institute High School building, a modern structure with a prominent red cylindrical tower on the left and a multi-story glass-walled section on the right. The sky is overcast. The school's name is overlaid in large white text across the center of the image.

Energy Institute High School

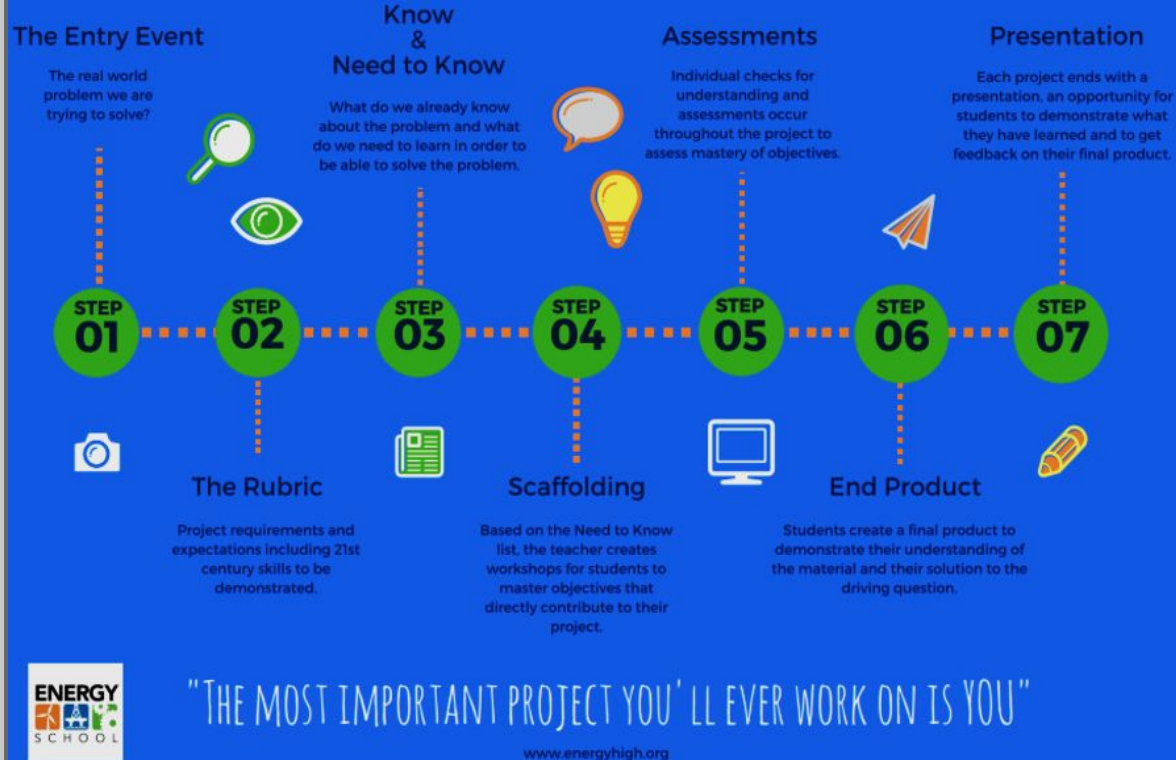
Houston, TX

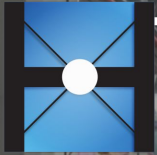
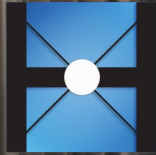
Energy Institute High School

Energy industry
connected projects



Project Based Learning at Energy Institute





®

HIGH TECH HIGH

High Tech High

San Diego, CA



High Tech High

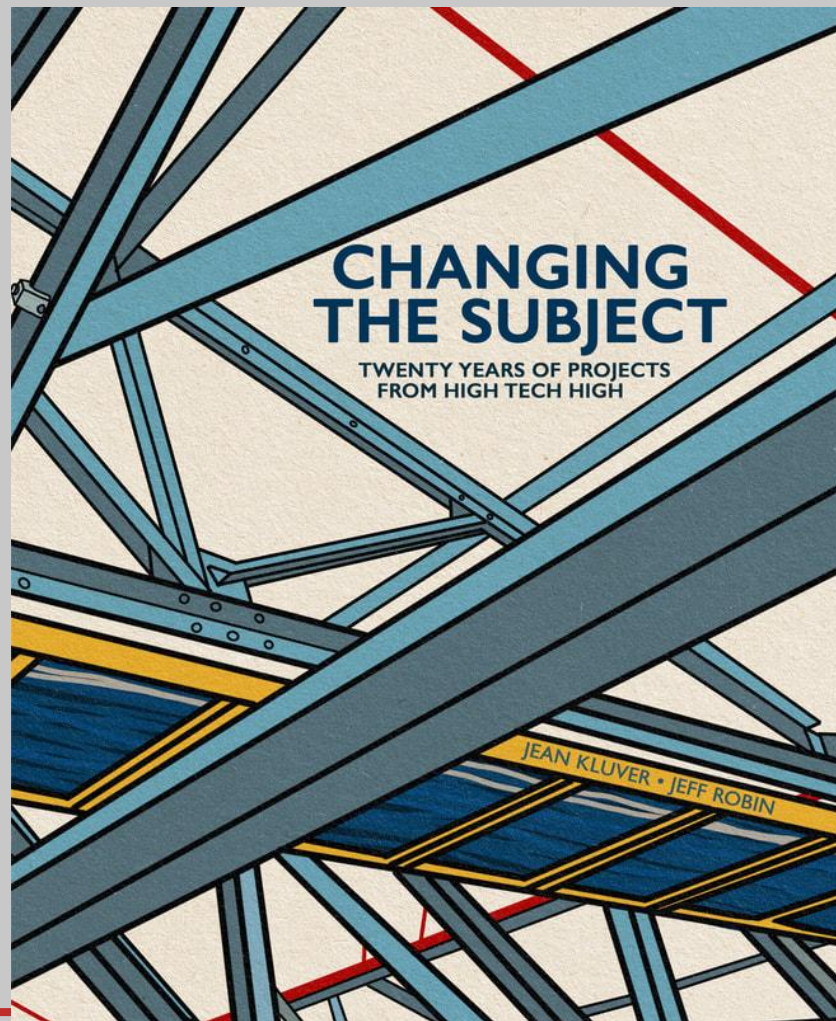
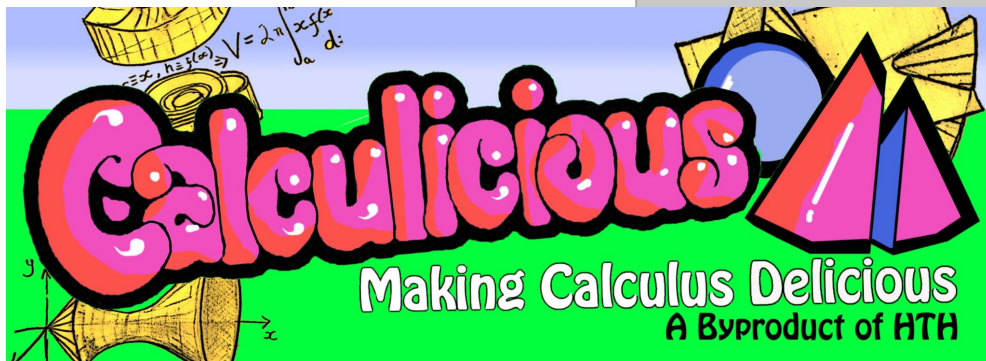
San Diego network of 16 schools

Integrated team taught units often community connected and art infused



High Tech High - Changing the Subject

Catalog of 50 projects from
over 20 years at HTH





Crosstown High

Memphis, TN

Project 901

- English & AP Geography
- Learners pick topic after community tour
- Deliverables: research paper, design thinking solution, presentation



Project 901

Driving Question: What challenges exist in Memphis neighborhoods, and how can we design or adapt solutions to address them?

The End Goal: By the end of this project you will present your findings to a community partner (or set of stakeholders), whose feedback will determine whether or not your solution would actually work.



New Tech Network

NEW TECH
HIGH SCHOOL

920

New Tech Network

New Tech Network

200 project-based schools share, platform, project library, rubrics, and PD.

Team-taught integrated community-connected projects.

El Paso developed 10 New Tech academies to jump start active learning.



New Tech Goals

- Culture that Empowers
- Teaching that Engages
- Technology that Enables
- Outcomes that Matter



Where to Start

- Build support with community conversations
- Update your goals, prioritize client connected projects
- **Identify** recurring client connected projects
- **Enhance** activities that are close
- **Expand** access to client-connected projects
- **Innovate** to create new opportunities
 - Identify teams willing to pilot
 - Create a little version of Iowa BIG



Anna Hennes

The Kauffman Foundation



Local Examples of Client-Connected Projects





Jayme Breault

Basehor-Linwood

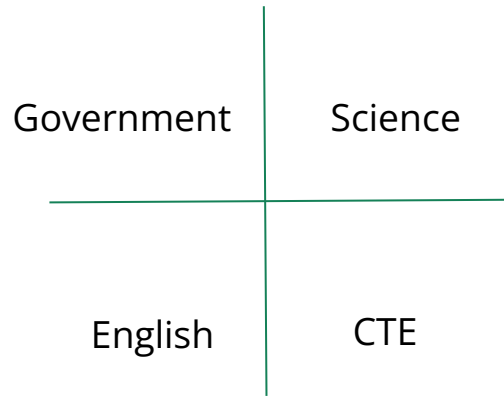
The Innovation Academy at Basehor-Linwood HS

- Personalized learning with an emphasis on Essential Skills
- Project-based
- Cross-curricular **core** and **CTE** credits
- Community partnerships
- Real world problem solving through the Design Thinking Process
- Flexible scheduling

[Innovation Academy Video](#)

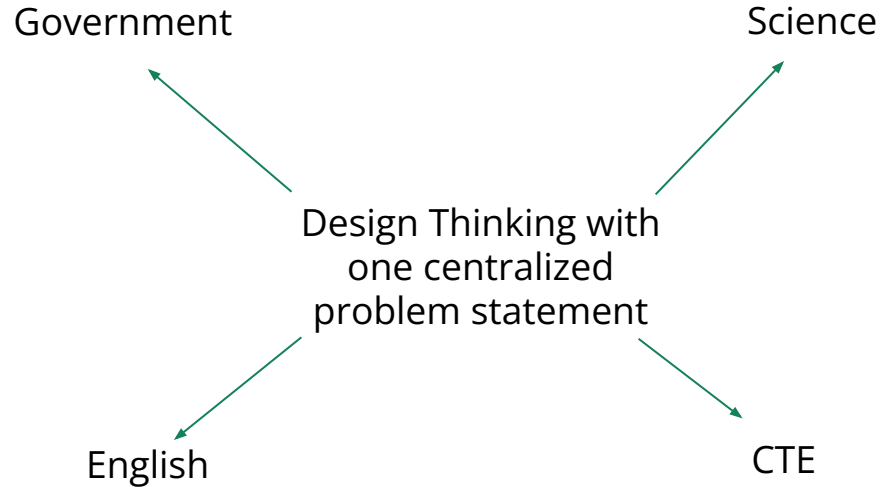
Connecting Core and CTE Content

TRADITIONAL CLASSROOMS



(4 Different "Problem Statements",
with no connection to one another)

INNOVATION ACADEMY





INNOVATION ACADEMY

at Basehor-Linwood High School

EMERGE

FRESHMAN 2021-2022



1ST SEMESTER

Course Credits: Exploring Social Studies & English I (Honors Option)

IA EMERGE STUDENTS WILL MEET DAILY AS A COHORT. CONTENT IS TAUGHT WITH AN EMPHASIS ON LEARNING THE DESIGN THINKING PROCESS AND 21ST CENTURY SKILLS IN A CO-TAUGHT CLASSROOM.

PROBLEM STATEMENT: HOW MIGHT WE DECIDE WHAT KIND OF PARK OUR COMMUNITY NEEDS ON THE 4 ACRE TRACT ON 155TH ST, THEN DESIGN IT AND NAME IT?

2ND SEMESTER

**Course Credit: CTE & English I (Honors Option)
Choice of Business Essentials or Intro to STEAM**

AS THEY DEVELOP THEIR INTERESTS, STUDENTS WILL CHOOSE BUSINESS OR INTRO TO STEM TO BLEND WITH ENGLISH I DURING THE 2ND SEMESTER. THE DESIGN THINKING PROCESS AND COMMUNITY BASED PROJECTS WILL CONTINUE TO GUIDE STUDENT GROWTH AND LEARNING.

PROBLEM STATEMENT: HOW MIGHT WE HELP THE CITY PLAN COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENTS AND ENGINEER WAYS TO INFORM OUR CITIZENS ON UPCOMING CITY PROJECTS.



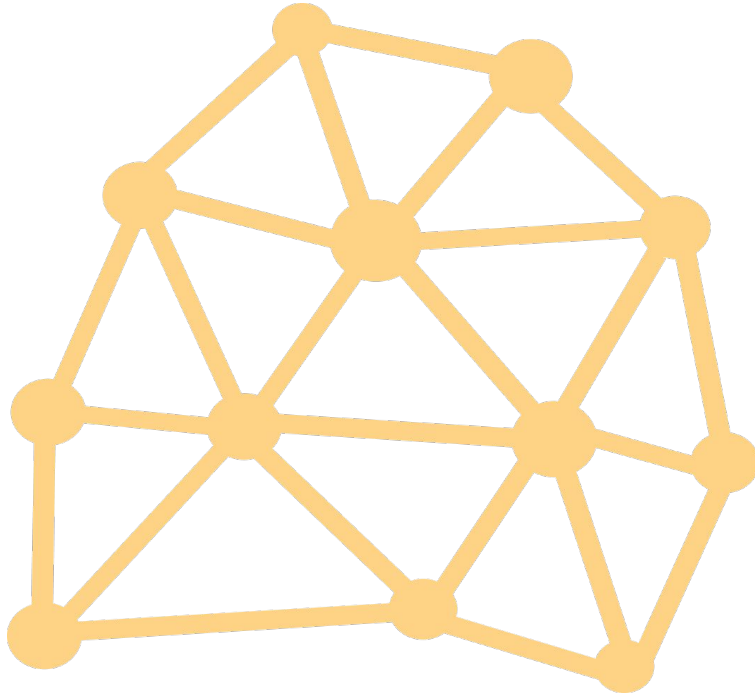
Fernande Raine



Emily Wegner

The Learning Collaborative





Designing Client Connected Projects with Museums and Community Institutions



WHAT SHOULD LEARNING LOOK LIKE IN HUMANITIES, ART, SOCIAL STUDIES AND HISTORY?



CCPs ARE THE NEXT LOGICAL STEP TO PEDAGOGICAL
PRIORITIES SET IN RECENT YEARS



**COMMON
SECTOR
COMPETENCIES**

FOR THE *Kansas City* REGION





Client	Harry S. Truman Library
Need	Marketing Campaign for Reopening
Project	Create Art connecting Student's Story of Self to Story of Truman

Client Outcomes:

Artworks that can be put on display and shared in a re-opening campaign

First opportunity to hear voice of students in connection to assets of museum

Student Outcomes



- Market Value Asset (24 Hours of Client-Focused Design Work)
- Marketing/Communications
- Project planning/management
- Oral Communications



- Sense of connection to community
- Sense of being seen in own identity
- Relevance of history today
- Reflection on leadership
- "One of best learning experiences ever"





Client	University of Missouri
Need	Research for Walking Tour of Missouri
Project	Create Tour Stops for Historic Missouri Site

Client Outcomes:

Site descriptions that can be integrated into walking tours for general audience

First opportunity to hear voice of students in connection to historic Missouri sites

Student Outcomes



- Market Value Asset (24 Hours of Client-Focused Design Work)
- Marketing/Communications
- Research
- Written communications



- Sense of connection to community
- Relevance of history today
- Self-expression in selection of site



KEY SUCCESS FACTOR #1: ALIGNMENT ON GOALS/OUTCOMES



Identity

Has developed a sense of identity and feels they have a voice.



Bridging

Is able to understand others' perspectives and bridge across differences.



Belonging

Feels belonging in their local and global community.



Curiosity

Develops skills to ask questions, find answers, and work with sources



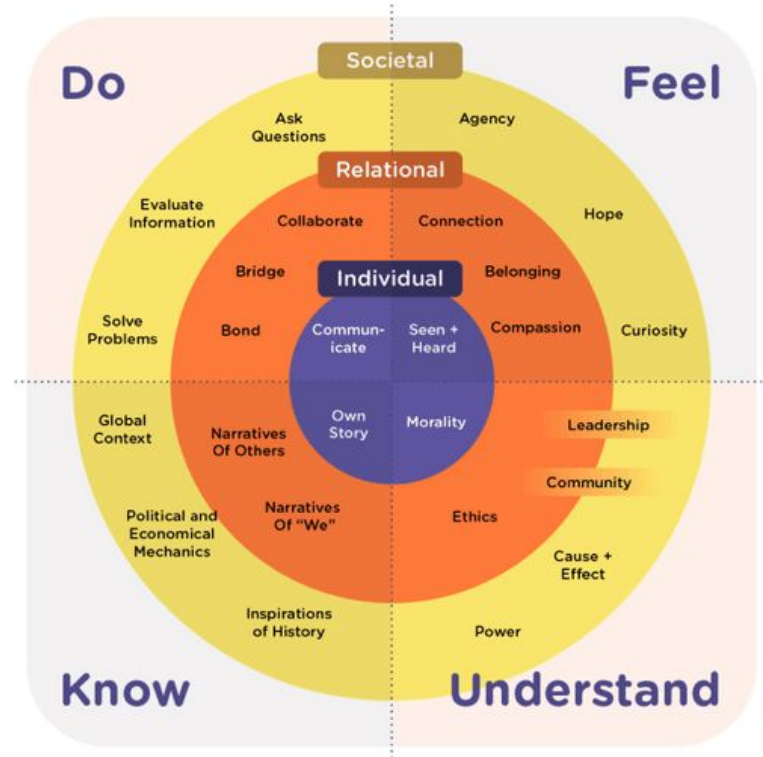
Agency

Has a sense of power for themselves and in their community.



Context

Develop an understanding of systems, justice and structures in society.



KEY SUCCESS FACTOR #2: TEMPLATES TO FRAME PROJECTS

OUR TOWN

A TEMPLATE FOR MUSEUM & COMMUNITY INSPIRED PBL

In this work, we are guided by our belief that learning should inspire inquiry, be rooted in place, focus on developing change-makers and be democracy-oriented.



OurTown/ OurState: Research and Tour Design

A COLLABORATION
BETWEEN [INSERT NAME
OF YOUR INSTITUTION
HERE] AND SCHOOL

DETAILS

of Students:
Whole Class
Partner Institution
Timeframe: 4 weeks

CATEGORY

For Institution:
Marketing and
Engagement
For Students:
Research and
Production



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With Your
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By using this template, you are agreeing to share your feedback and findings with The Learning Collaborative in order to improve the user experience. Please fill out [this short form](#) to support us in growing and improving. Before you get started, please take a look at the [Learner Experience Survey](#) that will be completed at the end of this project.

Project Overview

In this project, students are asked to help conduct research and create content on local tours that will connect members of our community with the sites and assets of our city and state. These tours can be part of an app, a website or an institution's tour collection.

This project allows teachers to teach local history in a format that is uniquely empowering to students, as students conduct research on relevant local sites that they care about with the help of researchers and community members. Given the vastly rich history in the region, the possibilities of important places, people, and stories are almost endless.

Your group of teens will decide on the topics themselves, but you will need to provide a framework of options based on your conversations as a teacher with a partner institution. At the conclusion of this experience, students will have created a product that will be presented to a team from a community institution for the opportunity to be included on a website or on an app.

Project Goal

With this project, we aim to empower young people as storytellers weaving the social fabric of our community. With their tours and research, they connect their interests to the assets of their home town and share their story to engage others. This is both the value to your town, to the students, and the community. This also provides them with an opportunity to collect information about contested and complex stories, and develop the skills to discuss challenging conversations rooted in their long history.

Key Learning Outcomes

We have identified six core pillars of civic learning without which a student cannot thrive and grow. Please see our website for the research behind our rationale for picking these.

Pillar	How this lesson strengthens it	Pillar	How this lesson strengthens it
Identity	Students develop a sense of identity by being allowed to choose an object that is meaningful to them. They can be encouraged to look for objects/places that speak to who they are and what they value.	Bridging	The conversations in class students selections allow them to hear other peoples' perspectives and values, and see where commonalities and differentiators exist.
Belonging	The students' research allows them to connect to their community in new ways and make meaning as they learn.	Curiosity	The students' selection is driven by personal curiosity, and they have to work with providers of resources to find answers to their questions. Depending on the partner you select for this project, they may be able to do primary source research.
Agency	Students develop agency through the process of selection, in managing communications with resource providers and in preparing an end-product for public consumption.	Context	There is potential for students to learn about larger systems and structures in society through their research, as they see how they are reflected in the story of the object they selected.

Competencies

In order to prepare students for the economy of the future, we need to focus on developing competencies, not just content. We have curated a framework of competencies from the ones most used in the field, but invite you to see a full collection here.

Core Competency developed in this module	How It is developed
Communication Collaboration Critical thinking Interpersonal skills Proactivity Executive functioning	Students need to think about how to share story in a way that engages Students need to work with others to collect material and create a story Students have to ask lots of questions (see above, curiosity) Students have to engage in a mature way with the client Students have to be proactive in their selection Students have to manage many different pieces of the project



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KEY SUCCESS FACTOR #3: TIME TO CO-CREATE

KEY SUCCESS FACTOR #4: COMMUNITY OF LEARNING

www.thelearningcollab.org



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[Toolkit](#)

[Events](#)

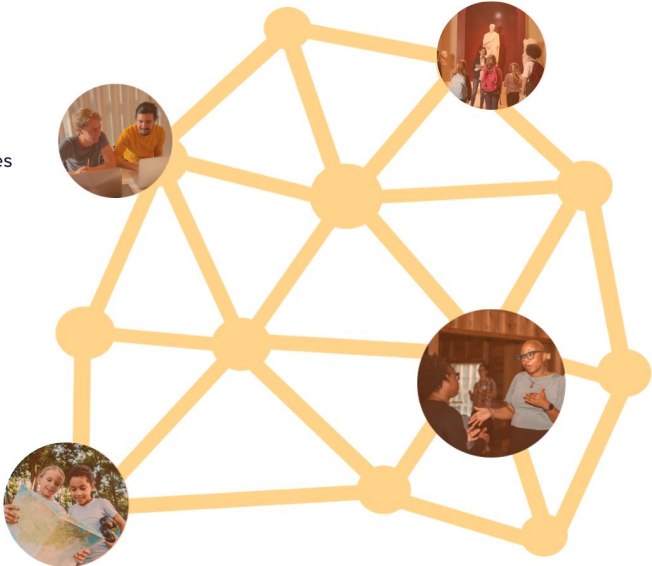
[Support Our Mission](#)

[Join Our Community](#)

We are weaving an ecosystem to transform history and civics education.

It's time to make powerful, community-fueled learning experiences the norm.

[JOIN THE NETWORK](#)



Enabling learning that sticks, inspires and empowers.

The Learning Collaborative is a lab that works to norm and spread the kinds of learning experiences

WHERE ARE WE NOW: RESOURCES FOR YOU!

- List of existing Client Connected Project Opportunities
- Co-Creation Workshops hosted by the Learning Collaborative (TLC Website)
- Free lessons and templates for projects

Additional Opportunity:

- Graduate Course offered by LSR7



Project Based Learning



Play Based



Peak Experiences



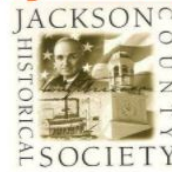
Inspired Inquiries



REAL WORLD LEARNING IS MOBILIZING AN ECOSYSTEM



Community Partners





Question and Answer



High School Action Team Update



Previous HS Action Teams Sessions

November 10: Leading RWL

December 2: Creating Microschools and Pathways to Increase Access to RWL

Upcoming HS Action Teams Sessions

February 3: KC Regional School Visits

March 3: RWL UnConference

- District-wide representation
- Strong takeaways and follow-up conversations
 - Networking opportunities

Upcoming RWL Webinar Sessions

January 20, 8:00 am

Part One: Emerging Issues in Clean Tech, Artificial Intelligence, Sustainability and Data Science for RWL

February 17, 8:00 am

Part Two: Emerging Issues in Clean Tech, Artificial Intelligence, Sustainability and Data Science for RWL

ThankYou!

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