

Crossroads Preparatory Academy's

Real World Learning Presentation



“A bunch of right answers on a worksheet will prepare a kid for making high scores. But solving authentic problems using creativity, thinking, and hard work? It will prepare a kid for life.”



Meet our RWL team!

Tysie McDowell- Superintendent, Crossroads Charter Schools

Kirsten Brown- Persley- Principal, Crossroads Preparatory Academy

Rachel Foster- Innovation and Learning Specialist

Ginni Stickney- Instructional Coach, Dual Credit/ Dual Enrollment Coordinator

Dr. Jen Lacy- CPA Science Instructor, Science Content Lead, Non-profit Co-Founder

Katie Swan- CPA Art Instructor and exhibiting artist

Stan Eshelman- CPA Computer Science Instructor and Crossroads Charter School Parent

Ashlee Dureka- CPA Sophomore Real World Learning Design Team Member (ReThink Conference)

Abigail Hoyt- CPA Senior Real World Learning Design Team Member (ReThink Conference)

Jillian Rainingbird- CPA Parent

Jeremy Knoll- Industry Partner, BNIM Architecture



Crossroads Charter Schools

Our Mission

Crossroads Charter Schools prepare and inspire students to build a better tomorrow by providing an academically rigorous K-12 education in a creative, collaborative, community-focused environment.

Our Vision

Crossroads Charter Schools will be the premier school system in Kansas City and a destination for other educators seeking inspiration and best practices. Graduates of Crossroads Charter Schools will be scholarly, culturally literate and service-oriented individuals who will pursue their dreams relentlessly and have a positive impact on their family, their community and the world.



Real World Learning Vision:

At Crossroads Preparatory Academy, Real World Learning provides authentic projects and experiences that enable students and teachers to engage with the community. Through these points of engagement, students and teachers are able to build relationships with leaders from various sectors and learn the pertinent skills that are directly related to future careers. This exposure leads to increased critical thinking skills, networking, and confidence, which are necessary for students to develop into the leaders of tomorrow. Crossroads Preparatory Academy's proximity to partners from our downtown campus makes these engagements and opportunities all the more accessible.

When students are engaged in the community, they can better understand the various challenges and opportunities we face in society. Students can then leverage this knowledge and diverse network to become community leaders who actively work to create a better tomorrow. Real World Learning allows students to become risk takers with the space to safely fail.



Where we've been...



Current Conditions:

- ***Approximately 95% of seniors have participated in RWL projects***
- ***Approximately 4% have attained a Market Value Asset.***

We acknowledge that this is a growth area for our school and are actively working to increase these numbers.

- ***We have approximately 44 students earning college credit.***
 - College credit options for CCS students include dual credit options through Metropolitan Community College (MCC) and the University of Missouri- Kansas City (UMKC).
- ***We have approximately 13% of our students participating in work-based learning (i.e. internships and client projects).***

We are using this opportunity to rethink how we promote courses and enroll students, award credit for high school graduation requirements, expand programming, and integrate our students with community partners in business and industry.



Senior MVA Data

	Total Percent of Graduates with an MVA (these are close approximations)				
Total number of graduates	Work Experiences		College credit	IRCs	Entrep. Experience
	Internships	Client projects			
47	4%	21%	34%	6%	64%

Congratulations to our first ever graduating class!



This year..

- KC Social Innovation Center and HireKC
- Prep KC and the Connector KC
- ReThink Edu Conference
- Art Expeditions



Middle School Art at CPA

This Year...

- Virtual Field Trips
- Virtual Artist Talks with national and local artists
- Sculpture Garden at the Nelson-Atkins
- The Belger Arts Center Field Trips
- Spring Art Showcase - EKRU Gallery

Building on more for next year...

- Crystal Bridges Museum Field Trip
- Expeditions class with The Sewing Labs
- T.A.B. (T.A.S.B) - Teaching for Artistic and Scientific Behaviors
- Arts in Tech as a Core Class - Community Partnerships



Student Voice: *Ashlee Dureka & Abigail Hoyt*



Our Challenges:

- Connecting our students with potential employers and colleges
- No portfolio or tracking system for student transcripts, IRCs, MVAs, client-connected projects, and other important documents.
- Securing enough placements for every junior and senior to have an internships.
- Providing meaningful effective professional development and support opportunities for staff
- Educating parents about the types of high-demand, high-wage job opportunities that exists in our region for students upon graduation.



Our Real World Learning Goals:

1. Increasing Real World Learning project opportunities for students.
2. Expanding experiential learning tied to Market Value Assets opportunities for students (Work Experience, College Credit, Entrepreneurial Experiences, Industry Recognized Credentials, etc.)
3. Designing a Graduate Profile Portfolio System
4. Expanding partnerships for our Crossroads Community Collaborative



Where We're Going:

- Downtown Innovation Campus
- Teacher PD and externships (CPA and beyond!)
- 100% graduating seniors have MVAs and a RWL portfolio; develop a clear MVA process at CPA
- Block schedule
- Interdisciplinary courses and RWL projects in every course offered at CPA



Summer JumpStart



Driving Question: How can we, as civic activists, undesign the redline for future generations?

Essential Questions:

- How does explicit racism become structural?
- What are alternative models and how can we participate in the invention of new policies, practices, and entities that could undesign this legacy?

Next summer's theme: Visualizing New Future: Imagining new possibilities through science fiction, folklore, art, and social movements

Community partnerships + credentials:

- MCC
- UMKC
- MindDrive
- Arts Asylum

Budget Year 1

	Grant Funds	School Funds
Personnel	\$80,000 (salary and benefits of Innovation and Learning Specialist)	\$240,000 (salary and benefits of two counselors and instructional coach)
Equipment/Supplies	\$5,000 (marketing materials and supplies for career exploration activities and annual showcase)	\$20,000 (marketing materials and supplies for career exploration activities and annual showcase)
Student fees	\$50,000 (for IRCs, dual credit/dual enrollment, AP exams, Resilience at Work 2.0, etc.)	\$50,000 (for IRCs, dual credit/dual enrollment, AP exams, Resiliency at Work 2.0, etc.)
Professional Learning	\$30,000 (workshops, externships, consultants, etc.)	\$8000 - (subs, materials, books, etc.)
Staff Stipends	\$8,400 (for 7 mentor teachers)	\$0
School Site Visits	\$40,000 (airfare, lodging, M&I)	\$0
Transportation	\$30,000 (student transportation to and from internships, client visits, shadow days, career/college exploration)	\$10,000 (student transportation to and from internships, client visits, shadow days, career/college exploration)
Technology/Software	\$20,000	\$230,000
Total	\$263,400	\$558,000

Budget Year 2

	Grant Funds	School Funds
Personnel	\$160,000 (salary and benefits of two Innovation and Learning Specialists)	\$320,000 (salary and benefits of three counselors and instructional coach)
Equipment/Supplies	\$5,000 (marketing materials and supplies for career exploration activities and annual showcase)	\$20,000 (marketing materials and supplies for career exploration activities and annual showcase)
Student fees	\$20,000 (for IRCs, dual credit/dual enrollment, AP exams, Resiliency at Work 2.0, etc.)	\$50,000 (for IRCs, dual credit/dual enrollment, AP exams, Resiliency at Work 2.0, etc.)
Professional Learning	\$20,000 (workshops, externships, consultants, etc.)	\$8000 - (subs, materials, books, etc.)
Staff Stipends	\$0	\$12,000 (for 10 mentor teachers)
School Site Visits	\$10,000 (airfare, lodging, M&I)	\$0
Transportation	\$30,000 (student transportation to and from internships, client visits, shadow days, career/college exploration)	\$10,000 (student transportation to and from internships, client visits, shadow days, career/college exploration)
Technology/Software	\$20,000	\$100,000
Total	\$265,000	\$520,000

Budget Year 3

	Grant Funds	School Funds
Personnel	\$160,000 (salary and benefits of two Innovation and Learning Specialists)	\$320,000 (salary and benefits of three counselors and instructional coach)
Equipment/Supplies	\$5,000 (marketing materials and supplies for career exploration activities and annual showcase)	\$20,000 (marketing materials and supplies for career exploration activities and annual showcase)
Student fees	\$20,000 (for IRCs, dual credit/dual enrollment, AP exams, Resiliency at Work 2.0, etc.)	\$50,000 (for IRCs, dual credit/dual enrollment, AP exams, Resiliency at Work 2.0, etc.)
Professional Learning	\$20,000 (workshops, externships, consultants, etc.)	\$8000 - (subs, materials, books, etc.)
Staff Stipends	\$0	\$12,000 (for 10 mentor teachers)
School Site Visits	\$10,000 (airfare, lodging, M&I)	\$0
Transportation	\$30,000 (student transportation to and from internships, client visits, shadow days, career/college exploration)	\$10,000 (student transportation to and from internships, client visits, shadow days, career/college exploration)
Technology/Software	\$20,000	\$100,000
Total	\$265,000	\$520,000

Sustainability

As outlined in the budget above, the majority of the expenses are already embedded in the school budget, and these will be able to continue after the end of the grant. As such, these expenses represent the way to do business as a school system, not something new or different.

Of the expenses paid by the grant, our plan to sustain is as follows:

- The salary and benefits for the two Innovation and Learning Specialist will be paid out of the grant for the duration of the grant. After that point, the school will work to identify sources of sustainable funding.
- We will continue to collaborate with other charter and district schools to determine opportunities for cost saving collaborations.
- We will incorporate our RWL expectations into the hiring process so that new hires to CCS will be in a better position to successfully implement the programs and priorities outlined here thereby decreasing costs.



Final Thoughts & Closing:

