

# Alternative Education Update



# What is the Bridge Academy?

- ▶ A school within a school, located on each middle school campus.
- ▶ Utilizing a non-traditional model to assist students in recognizing their value and begin the process of healing and restoration, allowing the students to reconnect with their education.

# Why does Bridge Academy work?

## Social/Emotional

- Building Trust
- Resilience and self-confidence
- Safe boundaries and respect
- Empathy and compassion

## Consistency

- Designated Classroom
- Start and End of the Day Routines
- Teacher and Instructional Assistant in each class

## Academics

- California standards delivered through experiential learning with culminating projects

# Integrating Standards with Experiential Learning



## PHS Planetarium

Kurt Kruger  
presented a lesson  
on the Solar System  
to Bridge students



## Planet Walk

Sugarloaf State  
Park



## Planet Walk

Where's Pluto?

# Building Trust and Self-confidence



# College and Career

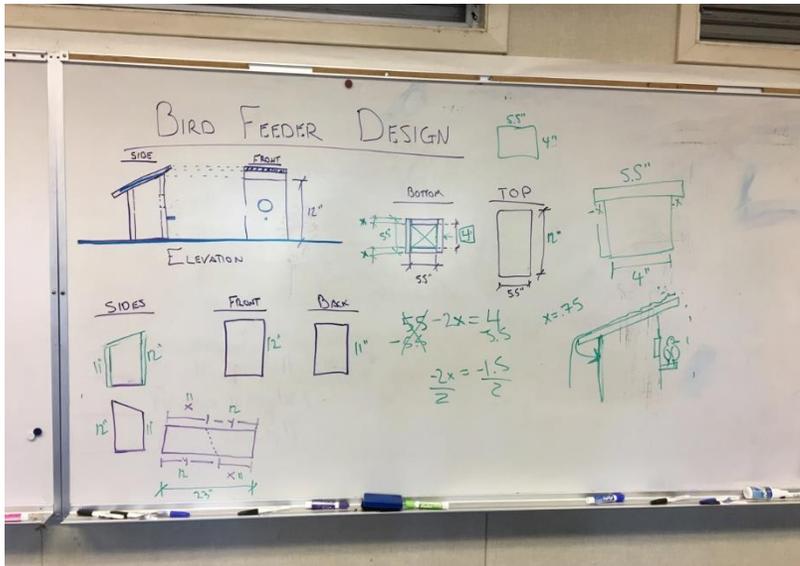
## Sonoma State University



## Petaluma Creamery and Spring Hill Cheese



# Project-Based Learning: Infusion of life skills and mathematics



# Social/Emotional Growth



# Student Quotes

- ▶ “This is the first time I’ve ever seen the ocean!”
- ▶ “I feel like I’m going to dream about this place tonight.”
- ▶ “I’m so proud of myself. Honestly, I think I like art.”
- ▶ “I can’t believe I just did that!”

# Cohort GPA Data

	2014/2015	2015/2016	%change	2016/2017	% change
Cohort 1	7 <sup>th</sup> grade	8 <sup>th</sup> grade		9 <sup>th</sup> grade	
GPA	1.66	1.64	-1%	1.31	-20%
Cohort 2		7 <sup>th</sup> grade		8 <sup>th</sup> grade	
GPA		1.77	NA	2.13	+20%

# High School Alternative Education



# Next Steps

- ▶ Utilize data to assess and improve the outcomes for Bridge students
- ▶ Improved articulation and collaboration between the middle schools and high schools
- ▶ Expansion of alternative high school programs to include 9<sup>th</sup> graders