



SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Inquiry-Based Learning (IBL): Next Steps

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Board Direction to Staff (11/14/17)

- Visit more campuses with successful IBL models.
- Meet with staff, parents, and community members to gather more information
- Develop a list of options with timelines, necessary resources, and issues to be addressed for the board to consider
- Build a cohort of teachers interested in and ready for implementation of IBL pathways and expanding SMASH to high school



High Tech High



- Guided by four connected design principles
 1. Equity
 2. Personalization
 3. Authentic work
 4. Collaborative design
- K-12 approach
- Teachers practice a learner-centered approach
- Mutual respect among students and adults through program design elements

High Tech High (cont.)

- Students engaged in work that matters to them, their teachers, and the world outside of them
- Students connect their studies to the world through fieldwork, community service, internships, and consultation with outside experts
- Facilities are collaborative work spaces with small-group learning and project areas, relevant technology, and common spaces where work is displayed
- Teachers collaborate to design curriculum and projects and serve as reflective practitioners



DPHS Engineering Academy

- A four-year Career Technical Education (CTE) program based on Dos Pueblos High School campus
- Competitive selection into the academy starting in the 9th grade
- Students are a part of the general school while taking certain courses in the academy. In the first three years, students take an integrated, interdisciplinary curriculum that covers:
 - a standard laboratory science physics course
 - a standard visual and performing arts sculpture course, and
 - an engineering elective course



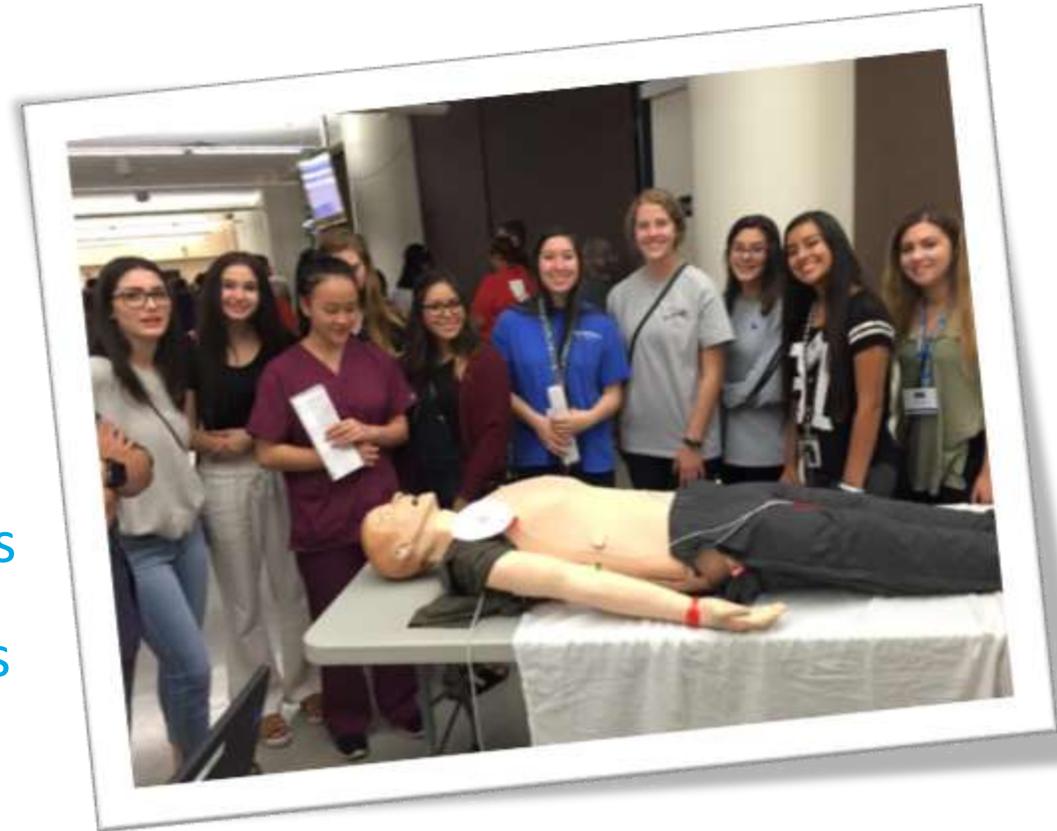
DPHS Engineering Academy (cont.)



- During their senior year, the Mechatronics capstone is structured as a robust internship experience in an engineering company. Students work in teams to develop interactive exhibits that one might find in science tech museums such as the Exploratorium in San Francisco, or MOXI in Santa Barbara.
- These courses are taught by a team of teachers who are credentialed in physics, visual and performing arts, and engineering/industrial technology.

Center for Advanced Research and Technology (CART)

- Two half-day block schedules with morning and afternoon cohort. The morning cohort spends three hours in CART lab in the morning and then the students are bused to their home school during the lunch break. At the same time, the afternoon cohort is picked up from their traditional school and brought to CART.
- Integrated classes where three teachers share a room with the students and work collaboratively through all aspects of the course, called a lab
- Authentic learning experiences with real world consequence or relevance



Center for Advanced Research and Technology (CART) (cont.)



- Educational philosophy and practice include Habits of Mind constructs of Initiative, Investigation, collaboration, communication, connection, reflection, imagination, and creativity
- Sixteen different career tracks (robotics, forensics, game design, law and order, biotech, business and finance, environmental science, and etc.)
- Subjects like English, science, and math are folded into CART curriculum, which is largely designed around teams doing industry based projects.
- Serves 1,427 students in both cohorts (7 AM-7 PM)

Imbedded Habits of Mind

- Initiate
- Investigate
- Collaborate
- Persist
- Communicate
- Connect
- Reflect



Your Thoughts on the Site Visitations

How have your thoughts about
inquiry-based learning
shifted before versus after
the site visit?





Recommendations

1. Establish a Blue Ribbon IBL visioning committee for SMMUSD in spring 2018, which will advise the superintendent on the following:
 - Ideas for secondary IBL pathways in SMMUSD
 - Establish secondary IBL pathway in SMMUSD, with an initial cohort beginning in fall 2019.
 - Establish implementation goals with timelines pertaining to: programming, information for board action, etc.
2. Set aside funding to hire a coordinator to:
 - Facilitate the development of a long-term vision with the Blue Ribbon visioning committee
 - Apply for grants (CTE incentive and others)
 - Facilitate professional learning throughout the district
3. Secure a budget to enact the IBL vision as recommended by the committee and adopted by the board. Funding at a minimum should include:
 - A year's worth of release time for teachers
 - Professional learning
 - Instructional supplies