



SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Project-Based Learning Update

Board of Education Presentation

November 15, 2018

Dr. Devon Smith, Learning and Innovation

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





Recommendations (3/15/18)

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

The Superintendent's Working Committee (SWC)

Why?

To effectively develop a comprehensive PBL implementation plan which:

- A. Boosts engagement and addresses equity and achievement gaps; and
- A. Addresses the SMMUSD Board of Education's charge to build internal capacity and launch a PBL secondary cohort of students in fall of 2019.

#1. Establish “Blue Ribbon” IBL Visioning Committee

Initiated: August, 2018

Meets monthly



The Superintendent's Working Committee (SWC)

Who?

- Superintendent
- Asst. Superintendent
- Dir. of Curriculum
- SMMCTA President
- Facilitators (2)
- Board Members (3)
- Teachers (6)
- Principals (6)

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The Superintendent's Working Committee (SWC)

How?

PHASE 1: RESEARCH - (Sept - Nov)

Define and Discover needs, desires, models, and capacities

PHASE 2: STRATEGIC PLANNING - (Jan - Mar)

Develop 1, 3, and 5-year PBL implementation plan including goals, timeline, cost, facilities impact, accountability metrics, and access strategies.

September	Mtg. 1: Define PBL; Why it matters; How it helps Mtg. 2: Align PBL w/ District frameworks / goals
October	Mtg. 3: Research PBL models & practices (e.g.: site visits) Mtg. 4: Inventory & prioritize existing SMMUSD stakeholder PBL needs, desires, & capacity
November / December	Mtg. 5: Inventory existing int. and ext. community-based PBL capacity (Learning Walks; Info. Gathering Mtgs.)
January	Mtg. 6: Year 1 goals (includes building off internal capacities)
February	Mtg. 7: 3-yr. goals
March	Mtg. 8: 5-yr. goals

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Preparing for the Ninth Grade Cohort Launch: 2019-20



- Applying for CDS Code
- Working with teachers to develop curricular units
- Working toward developing communication plan to engage all families in order to make informed decisions regarding their enrollment options

Preparing Teachers – PBL Secondary Cohort

**Leaving to
Learn at
Scratch DJ
Academy!**



Preparing to Spread PBL Around

Secondary Cohort

SPED Cohort

Malibu Cohort

Elementary Cohort

Social Justice Cohort



District PBL Definition (3.0):

- **PROJECT-BASED LEARNING** (PBL) is...
 - ...an authentic learning experience achieved through deep engagement with high interest, relevant, real-world, curriculum-related projects over an extended period of time. Students then demonstrate their knowledge and skills through a public product or presentation. It is often interdisciplinary and/or interest-based with differentiation existing in instruction, demonstration, and content.
- ***PBL can be...***
 - Individual or collaborative
 - Driven by interests, inquiry, and/or individuals' strengths and needs



Project-Based Learning





Project-Based Learning

Individualized

Interest

Inquiry



SMMUSD “COMMON MESSAGE”:

All students graduate ready for college and careers from schools that are safe, socially responsive and academically rigorous. This is accomplished through a self-reflective, shared system of accountability that consistently uses culturally relevant best practices to maximize equitable student outcomes.

“How does PBL align with the District’s goals, practices, and values?”

“Why now?”

“Bright Spots”



Discussion #1

What are some of the perceived “Bright Spots” for PBL in our district?



“BARRIERS”



Discussion #2

What are some of the potential “Barriers” to implementing PBL efforts within our district?



TOSA/Coordinator of Learning and Innovation

- **Areas of Responsibility:**
 - Project-Based Learning
 - Career Technical Education
 - Dual / Concurrent Enrollment
 - Adult Education

#2. Set Aside Funding to Hire a Coordinator

Initiated: August, 2018

Reports to Asst. Superintendent

Funding Reflected in LCAP



Facilitating Professional Learning Throughout the District



Funding Resources

- Base Funds for PBL
- Career Technical Education Improvement Grant (CTE)
 - CTE Matching Funds
- Carl Perkins CTE Grant

#3.

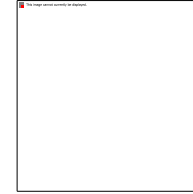
Secure a
Budget to
Enact the IBL
(PBL) Vision

Initiated: August, 2018



Developing the PBL Vision through Site Visits

Nov Scouting /
Local



Dec Strategic /
Fresno



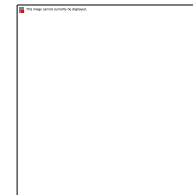
THE CENTER FOR
ADVANCED
RESEARCH AND
TECHNOLOGY



Jan Strategic /
SB & TO



Feb Strategic /
Local



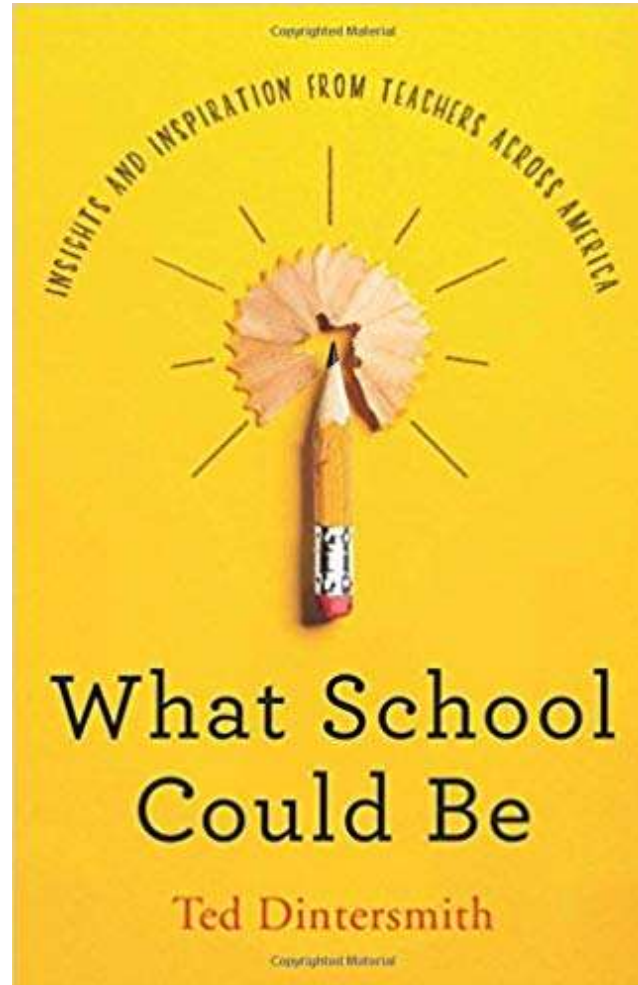
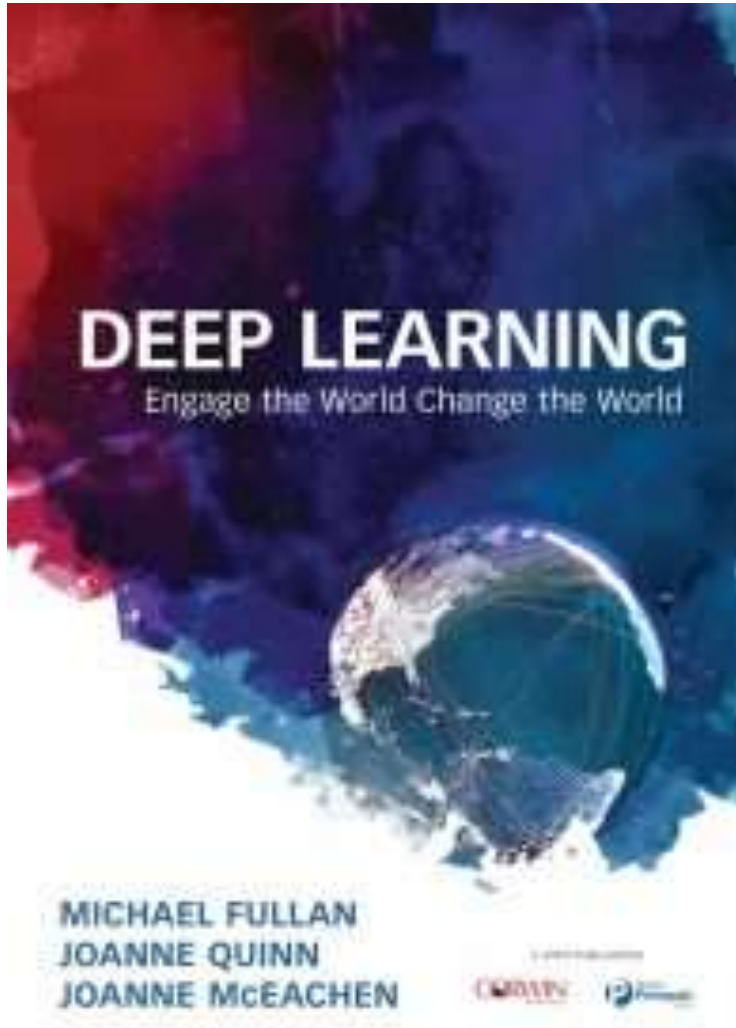
Mar Strategic /
SD & Irvine



HIGH TECH HIGH



Broadening Out Thinking through Current Literature





QUESTIONS / DISCUSSION