

Secondary Innovation Overview

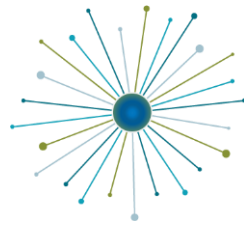
October 12, 2023

Heather Tow-Yick, Superintendent
Julia Bamba, Principal of Secondary Innovation

Purpose

- Establish a foundation for change and innovation
- Provide examples of secondary innovation
- Preview a framework for community engagement
- Share a path forward

Issaquah School District's vision and innovation



We are creatively, collaboratively, and equitably working with our community to inspire new possibilities for meaningful learning and experiences that unlock students' passion and potential to positively impact the world.

Foundation for Change

The time for education to evolve is now and the Issaquah School District is ready.

Ready for innovation in Issaquah

- Diverse student experiences and perspectives
- Nationally recognized educators and programs
- Home of Gibson Ek, a global model of innovative education
- Strong ISD vision, mission, ends, and strategic plan
- Close to 10,000 volunteers working with our schools
- Cultural and community connections for learning
- Home to many community, political, and business leaders
- Established major employers in the greater community
- High student involvement in extra-curricular and enriching experiences

The world has changed



Public education today

- Credentials matter and can be earned in high school and beyond, setting students up for economic mobility throughout their lives
- National mental health crisis
- Acceleration of technology (AI) across industries, jobs, schools, and life
- Interconnected global challenges, including climate change, that threaten equal and equitable access to economic opportunities and quality living
- Industry leaders share the desire for young people to be critical, creative, and collaborative thinkers with the ability to innovate and find solutions

Sparks of Innovation

We know that educational shifts are happening globally. Here are a few ideas to help us think beyond our traditional approach to learning.

Leaders in educational innovation

The Issaquah School District is establishing partnerships with many leaders and thought partners

- XQ Super School
- The Mastery Transcript Consortium
- Getting Smart
- Digital Promise and League of Innovative Schools
- Transcend Education
- Education Reimagined
- Revolution in Education
- Cambiar Education

Co-design is at the core of innovation

- Relevant and engaging learning experiences
- Caring and trusting relationships
- Youth voice, choice, and agency
- Community partnerships
- Smart use of time, space, and technology

XQ Superschool; Transcend Education; Education Reimagined; ISD Strategic Plan



Gibson Ek is a choice high school offering an innovative educational model open to any Issaquah School District student through a lottery process in 9th grade. Gibson Ek students find and develop their passions to make a difference in the world.

Known For

- Leading innovator in the Big Picture Learning network
- Leader in the Mastery Transcript Consortium
- Paradigm in Washington State for reimagining learning through participation in the Innovative Learning Pilot and leader for a new Performance Based Graduation Pathway.
- Host of regional, national, and international visitors with nearly 100 visitors in 2022-2023

Key Design Principles

- Real world learning and internships
- Project-based using Stanford's Design Thinking model
- Personalization
- Authentic learning experiences
- Application and influence in the world
- Mastery-based learning
- Fully inclusive model of education



Lake Washington School District's, **Tesla STEM High School**, is a science, technology, engineering and mathematics high school that uses problem-based learning to prepare students for future STEM professions. They've designed a learning environment that enriches the mind, sparks the imagination, and ignites intellectual risk taking.

Known For

- Top 10 National Ranking from US News
- Students nationally recognized in STEM competitions each year
- STEM prioritized learning and experiences
- Curriculum developed by committed Tesla educators

Key Design Principles

- Problem-based learning
- Real world learning
- Interdisciplinary approach to learning
- 21st century skills embedded in learner experiences
- Internships and partnerships for real world learning
- Scientific Inquiry



SAMI-Science and Math Institute

SOTA-School of the Arts

IDEA-Industrial Design Engineering Art

SAMI, SOTA and **IDEA** are three partner schools in the Tacoma Public School District who work collaboratively with community, cultural, and natural assets to be inspiring learning spaces for public education. They desire to change public education by emphasizing creativity, accessing community resources, and prioritizing real world learning.

Known For

- Model for using community partnerships to access inspiring places to learn
- Ongoing partnerships with the City of Tacoma, community parks, zoo, museums, studios, empty warehouses, forests, shorelines, ports, and more
- Nationally recognized model for place-based education
- Recognized as a School of Distinction in Washington State

Key Design Principles

- Classrooms are dynamic living laboratories inside the community
- Three choice schools with pathway focus
- Emphasis on 21st century skills
- Project-based learning
- Community, thinking, empathy, and balance are key pillars within the learning experiences



High Tech High was developed by a coalition of San Diego civic leaders and educators, opening in September 2000 as a small public charter school. HTH has evolved into an integrated network of sixteen charter schools serving approximately 6,350 students in grades K-12 across four campuses.

Known For

- *Most Likely to Succeed* film in 2016
- Leader in real world, project-based
- Hosts comprehensive adult learning environments including a Teacher Credentialing Program and the High Tech High Graduate School of Education,
- Leader in professional development for educators

Key Design Principles

- Integration of technology and project-based learning
- Interdisciplinary curriculum
- Student centered approach
- Small learning communities



Iowa BIG allows students to earn credits in English, Social Studies, and Business. Students attend their comprehensive high school and engage in a contextually-rich experience helping students develop agency, efficacy, and interests while gaining valuable real-world and academic skills.

Known For

- 2016 XQ Super School grant recipient
- Community-wide initiative to rebuild and reimagine Cedar Rapids to create a more engaging educational experience for their students
- Testing ground for high schools to expand options and opportunities for kids
- Strong partnership with local high schools with the goal of serving all students
- Launched first magnet school in 2023

Key Design Principles

- Project-based
- Interdisciplinary
- Community based
- College connected
- Hybrid program working collaboratively with comprehensive high schools
- Enhances the student experience rather than replacing it



The **CAPS Network** provides profession-based learning that complements college preparation by adding a dimension of career focus that supports students finding their passions and strengths and matching them to opportunities in the market.

Known For

- 100 affiliate locations spanning over 170 school districts, 23 states, and 4 countries
- Leader in connecting students with career connected experiences
- Inspires and energizes industry and nonprofit leaders in the community

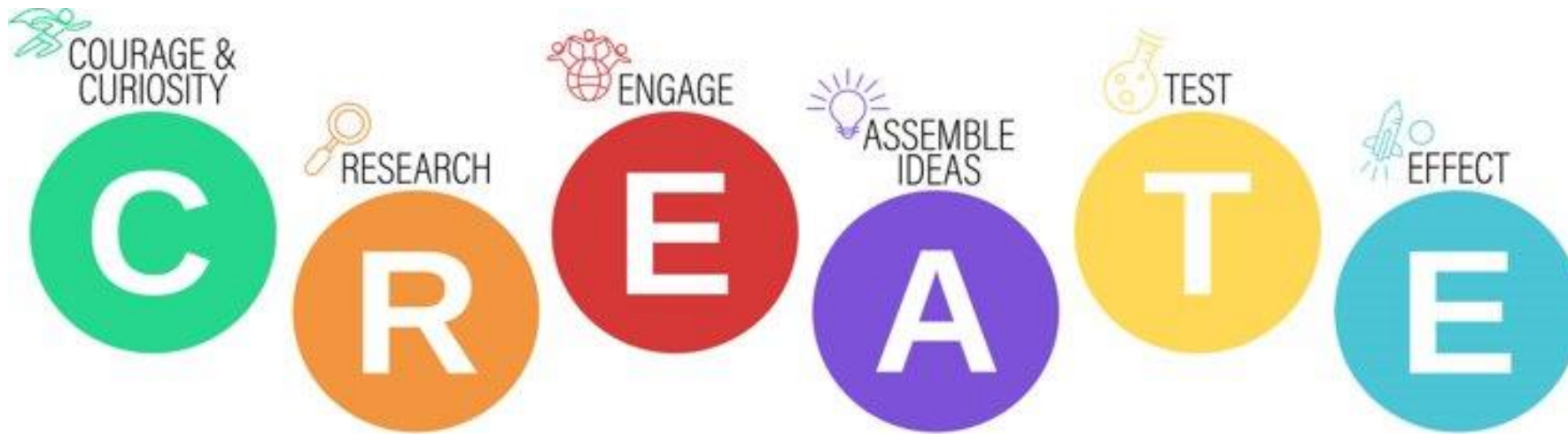
Key Design Principles

- Business, post-secondary institutions, and high school educators partner to educate students
- Students discover strengths and passions while exploring potential careers
- Learning is relevant to students
- Connects theory to practice
- Increases student engagement

Co-Designing and Authentic Engagement

Innovation takes a community. We will be engaging with our community of educators, students, families, and community partners to co-design learning possibilities for our students.

Framework guiding the work



Source:  **CAMBIAR**[™]
education

Discussion

What is inspiring about the possibilities ahead?	What do you want to learn more about?
What input do you have on the process?	What elements of co-designing are important to you?
What would you like us to emphasize with the community about this work?	What barriers do you foresee as we continue forward?

Preparing to Launch

Rooted in research and engagement, we are preparing to launch into the co-designing phase of innovation.

Possible path forward

- Continuing engagement in research phase to learn about models and design methods
- Looking closely at our various data for new connections or insight
- Conducting empathy interviews with individuals
- Planning engagement process to start co-designing in 2024
- Aligning with capital projects
- Attending upcoming events and convenings: ASU-GSV, Pathways Convening, League of Innovative Schools, other.