

Secondary Innovation Career Preparation

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ISSAQUAH
SCHOOL DISTRICT 411

Purpose

- Recap essential question for innovation and efforts to date
- Share themes from community engagement and ThoughtExchange
- Discuss pilots preparing to launch focusing on career preparation

Innovation Essential Question

What question are we addressing through innovation?

How can we build on the Issaquah School District's academic excellence while better meeting all learner needs and improving learner experiences as we design a fourth comprehensive high school and consider new possibilities in existing middle and high schools?

Shared at January 25, 2024 Board Meeting

Going from Great to Greater: *Why innovation in Issaquah?*

Innovation creatively and effectively makes learning more engaging, accessible, and personalized, ultimately leading to improved outcomes and experiences for all students.

What we hope to accelerate through innovation

- To engage all students in real-world experiences
- To deliver on greater choice and access for all students
- To foster agency and purpose

What have we heard from students, staff, families, and community through engagement efforts?

Desire for:

- Preserving the district's **strengths** while innovating
- Fostering strong **connections** and **relationships** between students and adults
- Offering **relevant** and **real-world** learning opportunities
- Increasing connections between **school**, **business** and **community**
- Providing student **choice** and **agency** for learning
- Developing skills such as **collaboration** and **creativity** to solve problems
- Prioritizing student **well-being** and **belonging** for all students

ThoughtExchange Details

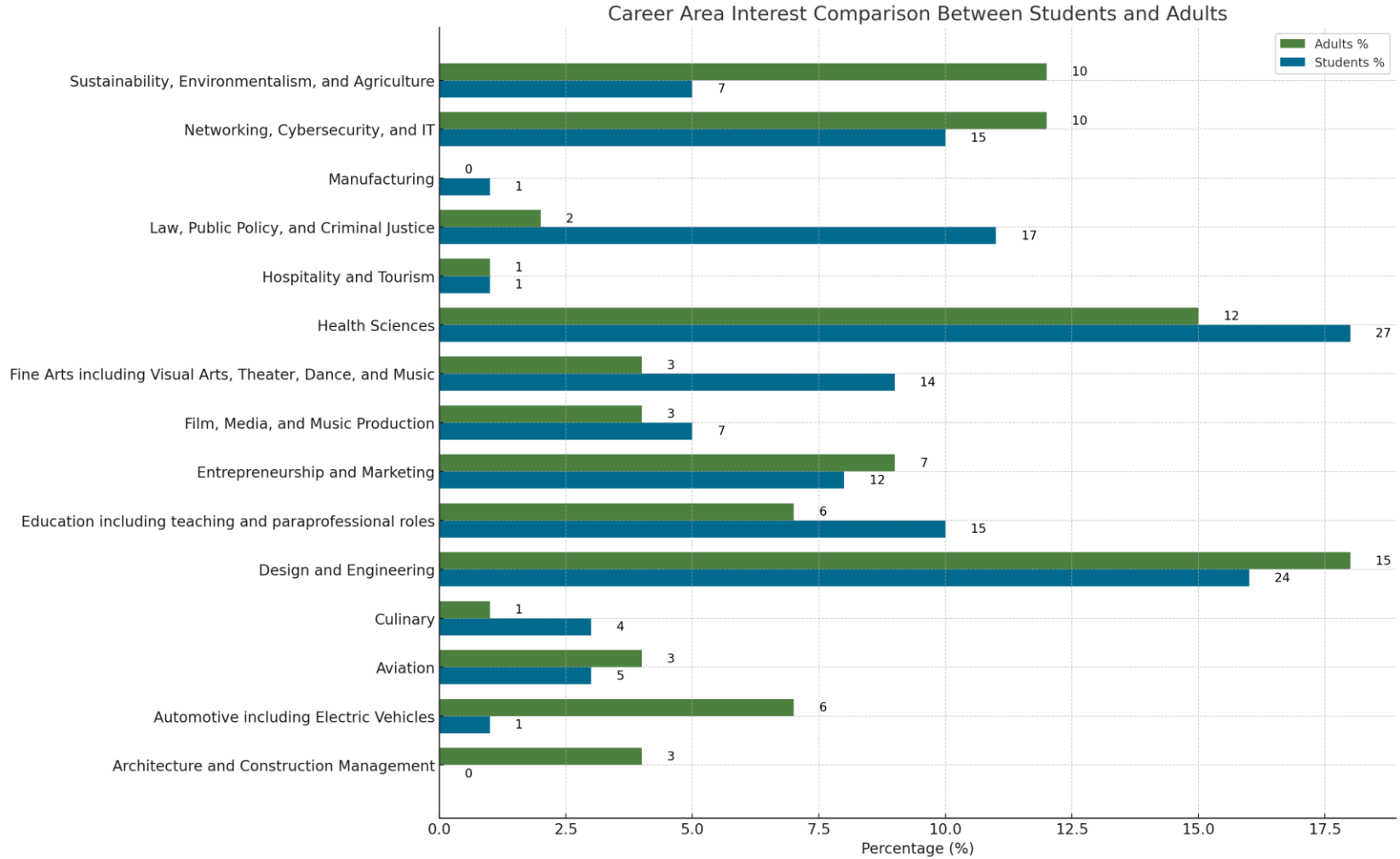
Student ThoughtExchange

- Launched March 27 and closed April 6
- 175 participants
- 96 thoughts shared
- 2,048 ratings collected

Adult ThoughtExchange

- Launched May 3 and closed May 20
- 104 participants
- 63 thoughts shared
- 1,258 ratings collected

Career Choices from ThoughtExchange



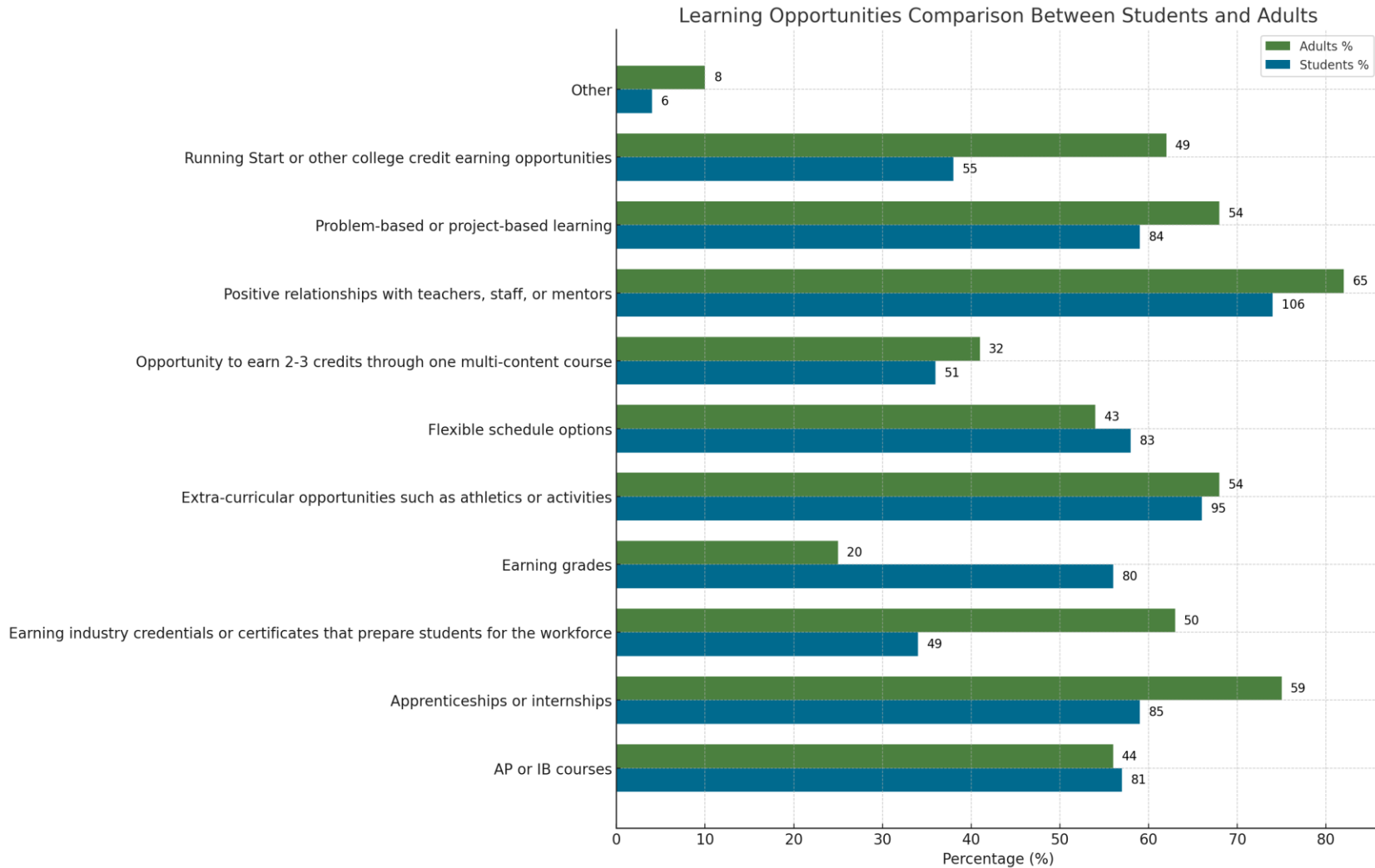
Student Question

Which career area is of highest interest to you? Choose one.

Adult Question

Which career area is of highest interest to you as you consider students' futures? Choose one.

Learning Opportunities from ThoughtExchange



Student Question

What learning opportunities are important to you? Check all that apply.

Adult Question

What learning opportunities do you believe are valuable for students? Check all that apply.

Microschool Pilot

How can we redesign learning experiences for students to provide an option for more relevant, engaging, and problem-based learning?

Pilot opportunity for students in 2 or more schools to learn with a teacher and cohort of students for multiple periods during the day. Students engage in problem-based learning that spans multiple subjects and includes real world experiences.

- **Learning outside the walls of the classroom**-Students will learn both in the classroom and in our community, providing a well-rounded educational experience
- **Inter-disciplinary**-Students can earn credit in multiple content areas through cross content learning
- **Good fit**-Students are a good fit for this pilot if they have a strong desire to learn and want a more project-based, collaborative approach to learning with a deeper connection to their personal lives and experiences

Advisory Model Pilot

How can we ensure every secondary student feels connection and support at school?

Pilot advisory program effort aiming to ensure every student has at least one adult they can develop a connection with and receive ongoing guidance and support over multiple years. This pilot will allow us to determine the benefits versus challenges of increasing regular and structured contact between students and an advisory teacher



- **Strong Relationships**-Students thrive when they have caring, trusting relationships with adults, peers, and the community
- **Guidance and Support**-Students receiving weekly contact with a teacher who can monitor their academic and social emotional development, leads to opportunities for all students to achieve at their highest potential
- **Purpose and Agency**-When students know they matter to the adults and peers that they work with, they can develop a sense of purpose and agency that leads to a future with goals and passion

Career preparation considerations

Key considerations in designing career preparation pathway options

- Identifying which credentials lead to promising jobs
- Prioritizing stackable or portable credentials that lead to additional education and training
- Understanding the needs of industry both locally and nationally
- Building a system that leads to multiple options for graduates
- Supporting students to gain work experience through apprenticeships, internships and shadow days

Source BLS – Healthcare Occupations; BLS – Healthcare
from Getting Smart Town Hall: Health Sciences

Career Preparation Credentials

CTE programming currently emphasizes exploration over deep training

- Students have access to a range of deep, credential-bearing training opportunities outside of school campuses through various partners (e.g., WANIC), but most of these programs are geographically distant and the district does not currently provide transit support to students
- Limited number of deep, credential-bearing training opportunities on school campuses (e.g., culinary)



Historically, our theory of action to support student passion and potential in CTE hinged upon exploration across a wide range of courses and career options.

Shifting career preparation and credentials

Exploratory focus



Emphasizes providing students introductory course offerings in a range of viable careers¹ (i.e., more breadth and less depth)

Students do not finish high school with an employable credential; post-secondary learning is required for students to reach job-readiness

Periodic program realignment can be beneficial to ensure courses are at the intersection of student interest and the labor market's need

Hybrid focus



Provides a range of introductory courses (though likely fewer courses than in the “exploratory focus”) while offering students some access to course sequences leading to deep exploration and learning in different career paths, potentially including job readiness / certification

Course sequences could be offered on campuses (though maybe not all campuses) or through partnership (e.g., WANIC) with transit support available to students

Career readiness focus



Targets a focused set of course sequences that lead to job readiness (e.g., employable credential) in viable careers by the end of high school

Course sequences likely include credential / certification, work-based learning, and/or clear next steps (to further training, to employment) after high school

1. Defined as living-wage, high-growth careers for the school district region

Key considerations for each model

Exploratory Model

- Broad range of options with less depth
- Flexibility for student agency, ability to move among interest areas
- Few opportunities for work ready credentials (primary credential required for employment)
- Foundational options across all schools
- Students can access courses in home high school

Hybrid Model

- Options are more focused
- Some deeper learning options added
- May limit student flexibility and choice
- One to two work ready credentials available per school
- Creates "Centers of Excellence"
 - Based on facilities and geography of technical college programs
- Transportation costs for students leaving home high school

Where are we now?

	Skyline HS	Issaquah HS	Liberty HS
Exploratory Clusters	Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics		
	<i>Not currently offered</i>	Intro to Architecture and Construction	
	Human Services		
	Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security	<i>Not currently offered</i>	
	Arts, AV Technology, and Communications		
Deep Dive Clusters	Business Management and Administration	<i>Not currently offered</i>	
	<i>Not currently offered</i>	Marketing	
	Information Technology		

Potential Industry Recognized Certifications for existing courses

High potential courses for certification

Woods Technology

Metal Fabrication

Police Forensics

TV/Video Production

Photography

American Sign Language

Intro to Computer Science- Python

Video Game Design

Cybersecurity

Fashion Design & Merchandising

Advanced Sports Medicine

Graphic Design

Criminal Justice

Intro to Culinary

Culinary

WA-approved IRC(s) to consider

OSHA 10, United Brotherhood of Carpenters Career Connection Certifications

OSHA 10

College Credit

Adobe Premier Pro, Commercial Art, Commercial Photography, Video Productions

Adobe Photoshop Certification: Commercial Art, Commercial Photography, Video Productions

American Sign Language (ASL): Level 1 Certifications (ASL-T, ASLPI)

Certified Associate in Data Analytics with Python, Python Coding Certification (Various Certs)

Unity Certified User

CompTIA, Certiport Information Technology Specialist: Cyber Security

None identified

CPR, Basic Life Support

Adobe Illustrator, Intuit Design for Delight Innovator Certification (Various Certs)

None identified

WA State Food Handlers Certificate

Servesafe Food Manager

Green text represents certifications available for 24-25 school year

Future possibilities 1 of 2

		Skyline High School	Next High School	Issaquah High School	Liberty High School
Access at all schools	Foundational Exploratory Courses	Science Technology, Engineering and Mathematics			
		Health Science (intro)			
		Architecture and Construction			
		Human Services			
		Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security			
	Deep Dive Courses	Business Administration and Marketing			
		Information Technology			
		Arts, AV Technology, and Communications			
	Profession Based Learning	Work-based learning, internships, shadow days, real world connections			
	Considerations for Credential Programs				
Centers of Excellence Example	Credential Pathway Programs	*Medical Assistant (Medical assistant certification with direct link to Bellevue College Program)	Nursing (Certified nursing assistant)	Sports Medicine (10 college credits and Basic Life Support and CPR Certification)	*Pre-pharmacy (Direct link to Renton Technical College for Pharmacy Technician)
		Teaching Academy (Paraprofessional certification)	Aviation (CORE Plus Certification)	*IT and Networking (CISCO Networking Certification)	*Architecture and Construction (CORE Plus Certification)

Future possibilities 2 of 2

		Skyline High School	Next High School	Issaquah High School	Liberty High School
Access at all schools	Foundational Exploratory Courses	Science Technology, Engineering and Mathematics			
		Health Science (intro)			
		Architecture and Construction			
		Human Services			
		Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security			
	Deep Dive Courses	Business Administration and Marketing			
		Information Technology			
		Arts, AV Technology, and Communications			
	Profession Based Learning	Work-based learning, internships, shadow days, real world connections			
	Considerations for Credential Programs				
Centers of Excellence Example	Credential Pathway Programs	*IT and Networking (CISCO Networking Certification)	Aviation (CORE Plus Certification)	Health Sciences including Sports Medicine, Medical Assistant, and Nursing Assistant (Basic Life Support and CPR Certification, Medical Assistant, Certified Nursing Assistant, and Pharmacy Technician)	*Architecture and Construction (CORE Plus Certification)

Next steps for innovation

- Launch the advisory and microschool pilots in the fall
- Research and refine next steps for career preparation pilots
- Develop implementation plan for innovation and the next high school*

Board discussion

- What else should we consider for the next phase of work?
- What questions do you have?
- What information or examples will support our next discussion?



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