



BRUCE-GREY CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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Report for CODE Director Innovation Funding 2015 -16

Participants:

Director, two Superintendents of Education, Superintendent of Business, a secondary and elementary Principal, and two Instructional Coaches.

Where the program or project investigated was located:

High Tech High charter school district San Diego California

What was learned?

We heard and witnessed;

- Articulate students who could explain the problem or question they were pursuing and share what they learned.
- Teachers working together in Teams – across subject disciplines
- True, real world, passion driven, deep thinking Project Based Learning as a routine.
- Technology, access and utilization was so integrated into the work it was not noticeable – but common tool.
- Teacher and school autonomy and supported by Public Trust.
- Commitment to process over product, however product expectations are high.
- IBM presented Watson Analytics consideration in managing data and support for responding to student needs.

Application in your district school board:

Providing students with rich learning tasks has been a goal of our work for several years. This experience has broadened our view of how successful a systemic approach to collaboratively designed rich learning tasks, in the case Project Based Learning, can be.

We currently have PLC work planned for the future to support classroom innovation in the areas of inquiry and project based learning. Up until now we have all experienced pockets of excellence but we will apply this new learning to put “holes on those pockets” as part of our strategic planning targets for the next four years.



We have a newly renovated Innovation Lab abutting an art and manufacturing wing at Sacred Heart High School, the experience at High Tech High has given inspiration and a framework to begin building innovative cross curricular real world, passion driven projects for students.

We have recently connected with the Future Design School at MaRS Center for Innovation in Toronto and will be exploring on-going support to develop collaboration by teachers in providing rich learning tasks.