

Plan with a Fancy Name

“The greatest discovery of all time is that a person can **change** his future by merely **changing** his attitude” -Oprah Winfrey.



Nayona Traywick, Sam Maistros, and Ryan Lawson

What Was Our Assignment?

CEO Eric Gordon has tasked us with redesigning, or rethinking, the everyday life of a student and what school can mean or look like in csmd.

How Are We Approaching This Problem?

The current system hinders learning because it is rigid rather than letting students explore and get excited about learning while also feeling comfortable.

Major Elements

Our main focus is to add/change how the academic system of learning and how it best works for the students by incorporating more focus on.

- Mental health
- Exploration
- Grading
- Student choice

We hope these changes would make students want to come to school more and let them learn.

Mental Health

Helping students become more aware of mental health is a very important aspect in everyday life. While many people understand that school is stressful, the impact of said stress could weigh more on students, with said issues. The reason being teen suicide is over the national average here in Ohio.

Exploration

Many schools in countries other than America that are much more successful when it comes to academic value let students explore and experiment and learn on their own time. This not only helps the student learn but it also helps them get excited about learning when they use their hands and actually see how what they're learning affects the world around them.

Field trips also help students get out of their seats and get to explore the world. A few teachers have even said “When you get into the real world” that suggest that school isn't real and most of the things we learn are meaningless.

When we asked students when the last time they felt excited about learning was they said:

“The only time I feel excited about learn something is when it's not rushed and it's hand on.”

Grading

While working during the pandemic the grading scale for most schools has changed. Some would say for good and some wouldn't while saying this we propose the following methods of grading and showing improvement

What could we change to ensure a better education for students?

- Portfolio based grading
- Pass or fail grading
- Criticism based grading
- No homework

In a survey we conducted amongst CMSD students, it was commonly found that most students would like change within the grading system and would prefer if everything wasn't just based on different scores.

Grading: Part 2

According to research from globalcitizen.org students have to take one standardized test through their adolescence and its not graded by a computer but by educators. It's called the National Matriculation Examination. We shouldn't have as many tests as we do now. Instead of having kids and teens only learn for testing but learn to become a functional adult.

A student from John Hay Architecture and Design says that they'd:

“wish schools would stop only focusing on scores”

At least 10 responses in the survey talk about changing the workload and the amount of homework school gives us. It is commonly found that more often students have requested and/or want a class to stay within the school and not have to spend extra time out of school doing homework.

Student Choice

Our goal is to create a program that allows students to choose what they learn based on what they are interested in. We plan to study the other countries that have similar systems like we are thinking of creating.

Student choice would also offer a more hands on life skills class this way students would get real life experiences in the workforce that they would like to go into and or might be considering. Also this might look like letting students be able to take courses online if they want.

When we asked when the last time students felt excited to learn, they said

“art history or art in general because finding out the origin of art in itself is fun.”

In Conclusion

We believe that students will have a more engaging school experience if we improve on:

1. How we judge students based on their work
2. The choices students have in what they learn
3. The way students are taught
4. And how we see and support those struggling with mental health

Thank You

Any Questions?