

BPS Empower[Ed]

Crosswalking CTE, Core Classes, & Community

Preparing Bismarck's students for a changing world

April 13, 2023 | 9:45 A.M.

ACTE Region V Conference | Fargo, ND



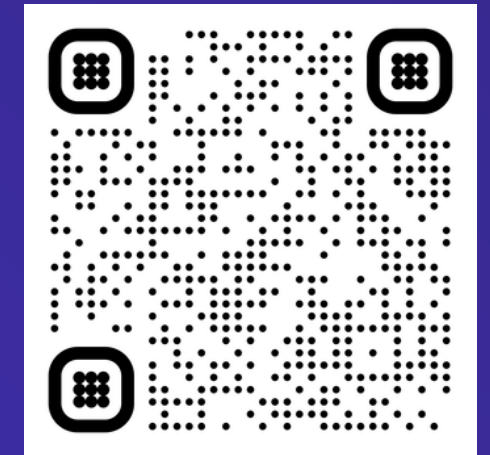
David St. Peter
Lead Personalized
Learning Facilitator
Bismarck Career
Academy

Bismarck Public Schools Career Academy & Technical Center



At a glance:

- Built in 2011
- Grades 9-12
- 1500 students
- 38 CTE course offerings
- 8 surrounding schools



Virtual Tour!



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Part I

Let's innovate

Crosswalking CTE, Core Classes, & Community



The idea

- ▶ 2017-2019 NDCEL Innovation Academy
- ▶ Schedule Conflicts
- ▶ Core Classes
- ▶ Personalized and/or Competency-Based
- ▶ Spring 2020 - Innovative Education Waiver

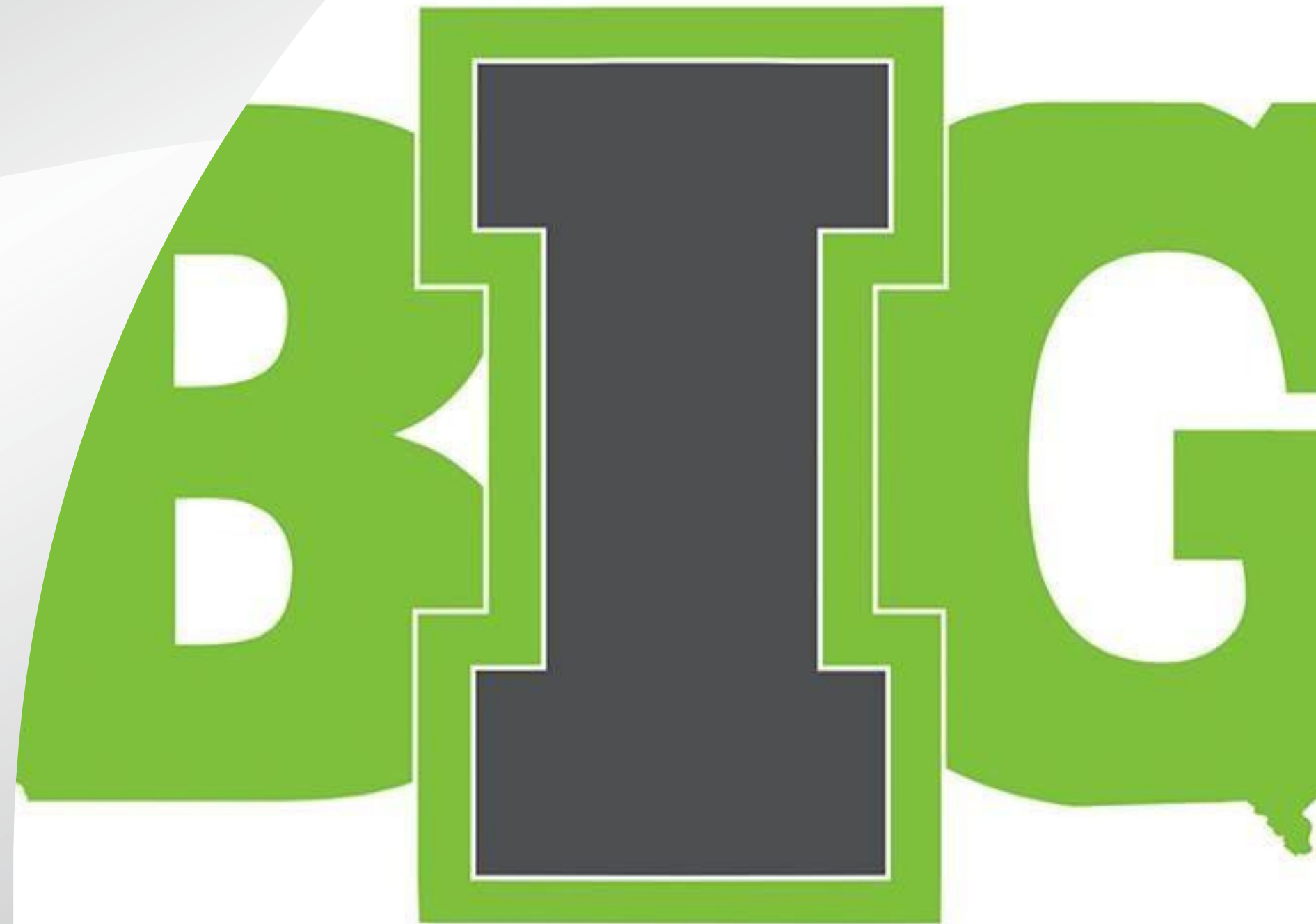
Community- embedded projects done well.



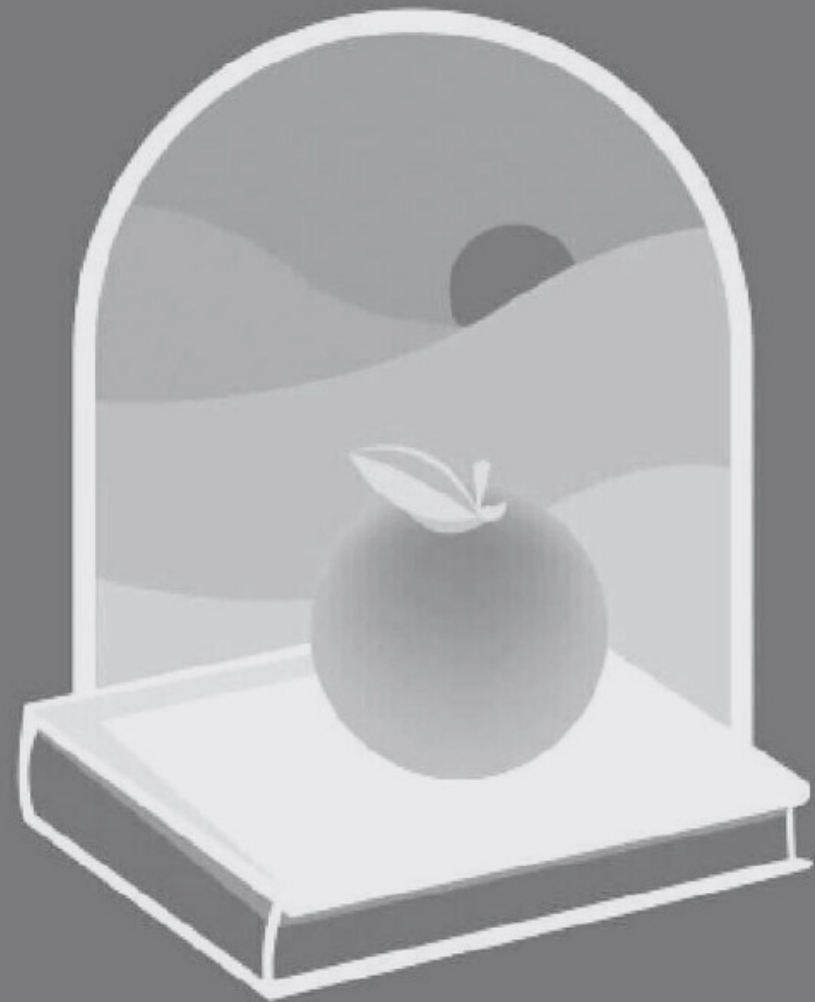
What benefits will our CTE-based experience offer learners during their project work?



How do they balance curriculum with project work?



Personalized through self-pacing



LINDSAY UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT



How might playlists accommodate personalized learning in our context?



What do you do for learners that finish the curriculum early?



Let's make wa[i]ve[r]s

Key language from our waiver proposal:

- **Community-embedded projects**
- Leveraging the interests and career aspirations of students to design and deliver meaningful **authentic learning experiences**.
- Engagement with standards through authentic, **experiential learning**.
- Connecting standards to **student aspirations** to increase engagement.
- Leveraging multiple learning contexts to generate multiple opportunities for students to **increase proficiency**.



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Questions?

CROSSWALKING CTE, CORE CLASSES, & COMMUNITY



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Part II

Building the plane while flying it

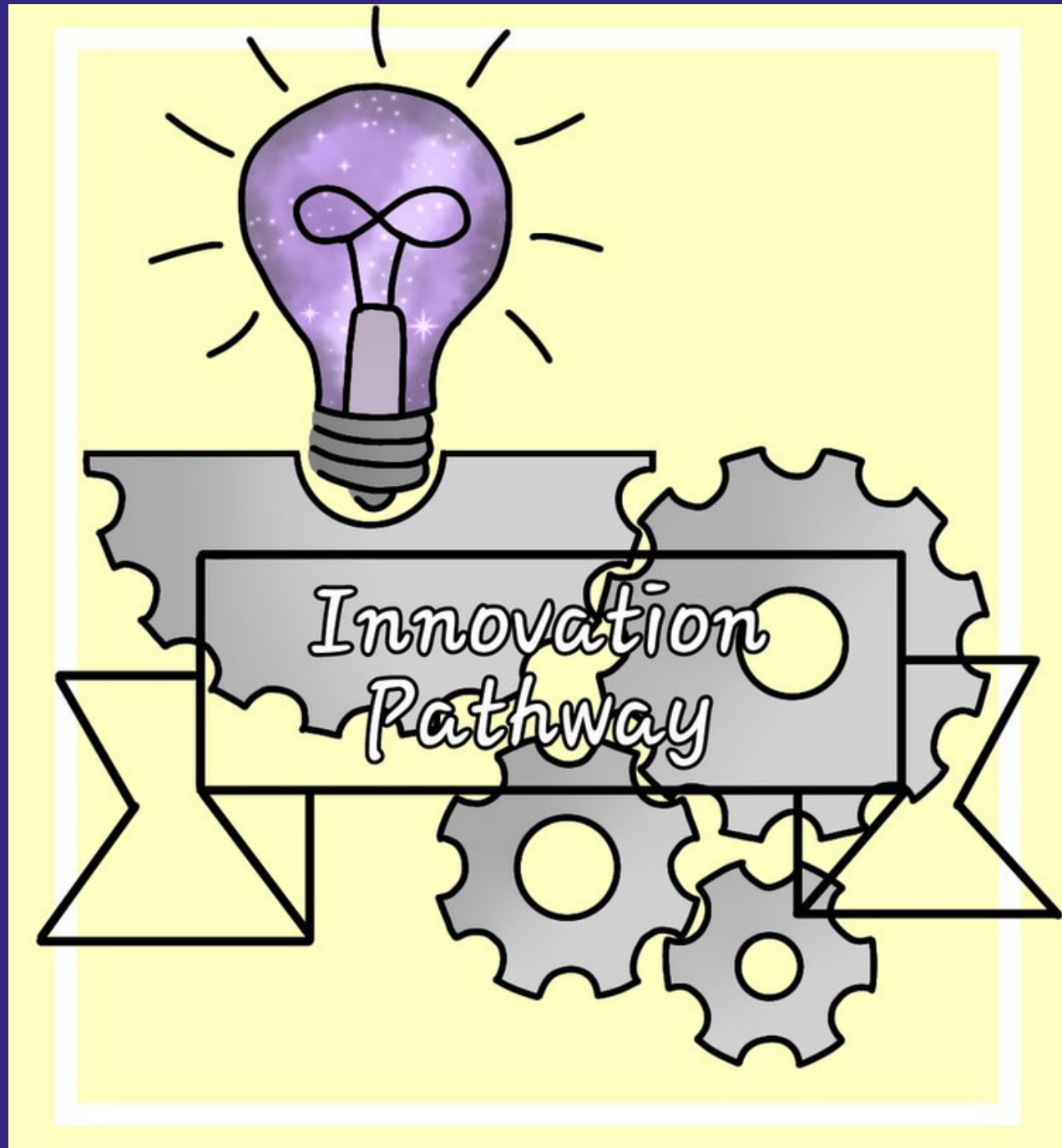
Crosswalking CTE, Core Classes, & Community



Who will be a part of the pilot year?



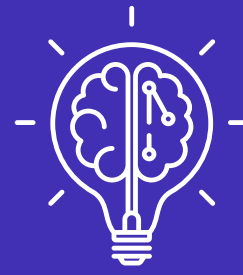
What experience will we offer them?



Original Logo
(created by learner)

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Learning Lab
Year One





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English Math Economics ?

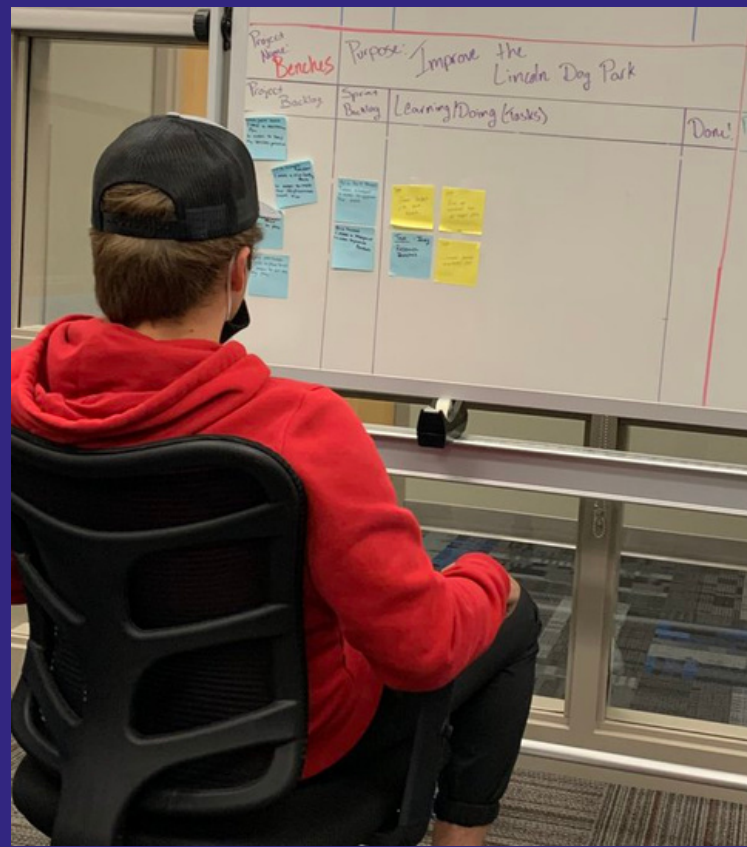
Push vs. Pull

CROSSWALKING CTE, CORE CLASSES, & COMMUNITY

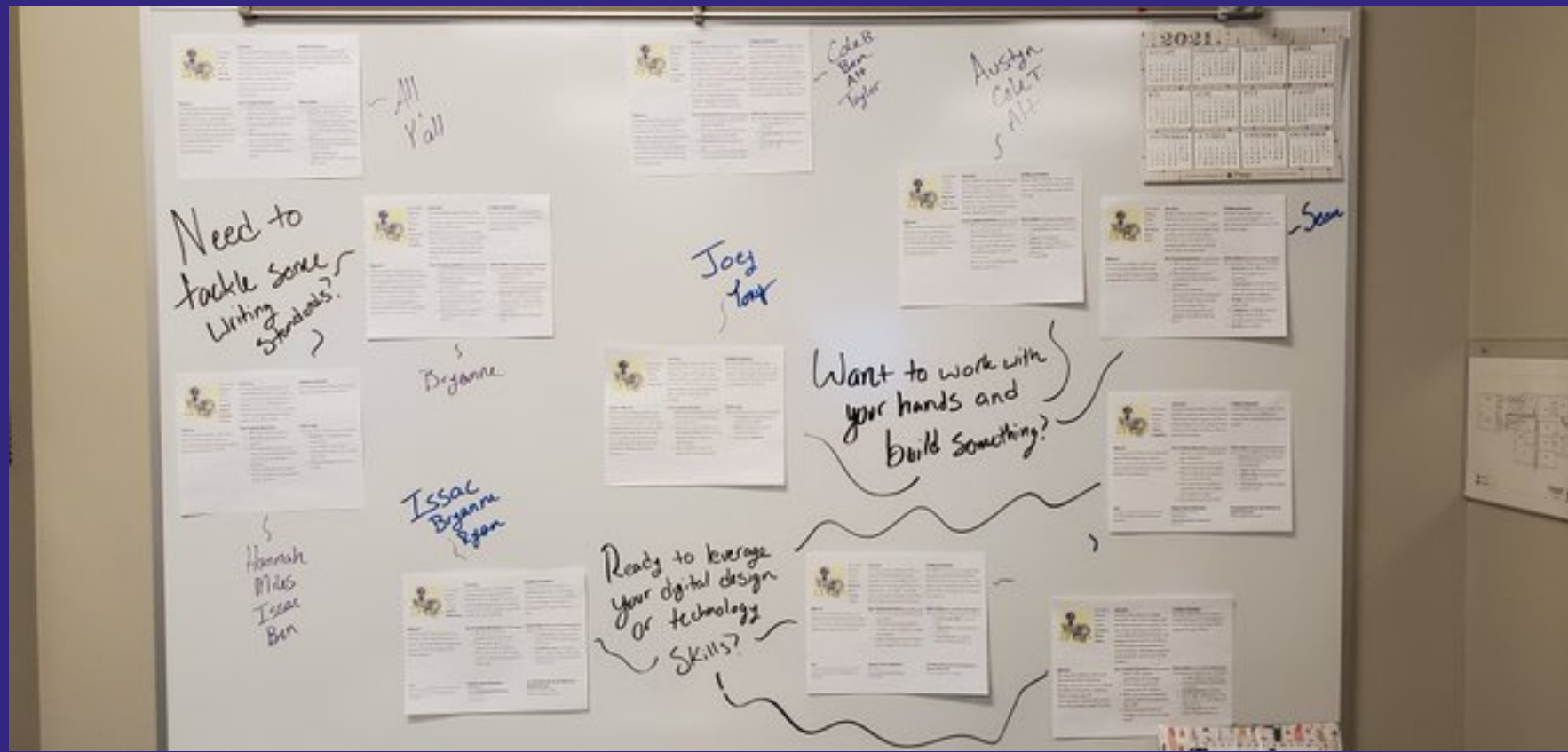
The background features a dark blue field with several overlapping circles in lighter shades of blue. One large circle is on the left, and another smaller one overlaps it. The text is positioned on the right side of the image.

How do we make community projects happen?

Early lessons learned



Task prioritization



Community Project Charters

Personalized Learning Facilitator aka guide on the side



Stakeholder Review



Flexible Time



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Year One Project Examples



 **Heavens Helpers Soup Cafe**
16 hrs · 🌐

Joey, now a Senior at Inovation Pathway, made this cow food storage container for the Soup Cafe. He had a very limited amount of time to complete this project but he and his classmate TJ pulled together to finish the project. We will utilize this to hold the stale bread, old vegetables and other food that is not suitable to serve our guests. We partner with a local farmer who feeds his cows, then donates beef back to the Cafe. A win win for everyone involved! Very little is wasted at the Cafe!

A special thanks to Lowe's Home Improvement for providing the lumber and supplies to complete this project! Thank you Joey and Lowe's for your time and generosity!





Year One In Their Words

@BPS_CA_IP



BPS INNOVATION PATHWAY

I chose the Innovation Pathway so I could focus on learning that was going to help me out in the future. The personal style of learning helps me to be engaged and work on projects I am truly passionate about.

This is the first time in awhile I have been truly excited to go to school. The teachers are amazing at making personal connections, and fitting course material to you instead of the other way around.

BRYANNE EDWARDS

JUNIOR



@BPS_CA_IP



BPS INNOVATION PATHWAY

I really enjoy being a part of the Innovation Pathway because of the teachers, the students, and the projects we get to be a part of in the Bismarck Community.

I also enjoy the one-on-one teaching of topics that are taught to me using my interest in Aviation and Agriculture. Doing that allows me to be more focused on the project or task at hand.

TONY NAGEL

JUNIOR





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Questions?

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Part III

Adding more seats to the plane

CROSSWALKING CTE, CORE CLASSES, & COMMUNITY





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- ▶ 14 students→ 30 students→ 60 students
- ▶ Increased staffing & course offerings
- ▶ Rebranding & expanding
- ▶ Refining our tracking & reporting
- ▶ Crosswalking standards

A plethora of project opportunities

Here's some of the various organizations that learners have engaged with in their community.

Dakota Zoo

Absolute Accounting

Heaven's Helpers Soup Cafe

Closet 701

Capitol Shakespeare

Northern Plains Dance

Lincoln Parks & Rec

Delta Waterfowl

Adult Learning Center

Global Neighbors

Missouri River Teacher Center

Lincoln Auto Repair

City of Bismarck

Gateway to Science

Blink Eyewear

Harmony Stables

Ferguson Books

Dakota Media Access

Bismarck City Planners

Human Relations Committee

Wachter Middle School

Anderson Farms

Sanford Health

ND State Historical Society

United Tribes Technical College

Elevate Canine

TR4 Heart & Soul

Sickies Garage

Copper Dog

The CraftCade Pizzeria

King Koin Laundromat

BPS Assistive Technology

Knife River

Pat's Pro Tune Plus

Memory Keepers LLC

Dakota Children's Advocacy Network



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Year Two Project Examples





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Year Two In Their Words

“

I DON'T FOCUS WELL IN A NORMAL CLASSROOM AND I WORK BETTER WHEN I'M ABLE TO COLLABORATE WITH OTHERS. MOST CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENTS DON'T ALLOW THAT. EMPOWER[ED] DOES.

I REALLY LIKE WORKING AT MY OWN PACE AND BEING ABLE TO TALK AND COLLABORATE WITH OTHERS AND BOUNCE IDEAS OFF OF OTHERS IN THE ROOM. I ALSO ENJOY THAT I CAN DESIGN MY OWN WORK SCHEDULE EVERYDAY WHEN I COME TO CLASS.

TEHYA SCHWEITZER

BHS Junior



@CA_EmpowerEd



“

I CHOSE EMPOWER[ED] BECAUSE I WAS STRUGGLING TO FIND SCHOOL FUN ANYMORE AND DIDN'T HAVE ANY DRIVE TO LEARN. I FELT THAT WORKING WAS A BETTER USE OF MY TIME AND ALMOST DISREGARDED SCHOOL ALTOGETHER. EMPOWER[ED] BROUGHT BACK THAT EXCITEMENT TO LEARN.

IN EMPOWER[ED], I GET TO LEARN AT MY OWN PACE AND LEARN THINGS I PERTAIN TO BE USEFUL IN MY OWN LIFE. THERE IS NO EXTRA WORK, BUT IF I AM INTERESTED IN SOMETHING, I AM ALWAYS ENCOURAGED TO LEARN AS MUCH ABOUT IT AS I CAN. I LOVE TO LEARN BUT ALWAYS HATED SCHOOL. THIS CLASS EMBODIES THAT ENTIRE MINDSET AND PROMOTES LEARNING IN AN ENJOYABLE WAY.

JESSE KRAFT

Homeschool Senior



@CA_EmpowerEd





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Year Two In Their Words

Highlights from 2021-2022 Annual Report for DPI - Learner Surveys

"[I grew in] The ability to take risks and try things that are excellent for my learning even though I've never done anything like it before."

"...this experience...taught me skills in a work space that I've never even thought of. I have never been able to be in charge in the school environment and that's what this class has allowed me to do and I am super grateful for that."

"I think I did a lot better in working with other people. Before I didn't like doing group projects, but after doing community projects with other people I realized how much can get done when you work together."

"I wish I was more organized with my schoolwork in 1st semester but I learned from my mistakes and did better in second semester."

"I was struggling so I found a system that would work in order to get through all my standards by the end of the year, old me would've shrugged it off."

Sound like Career Ready Practices
to anyone else?



**Framework for the
developmental experiences
necessary to become career
ready**

Attitude

Focusing on a project

Communicating well

Responsibility

Time management

Engaging actively

Primary CRPs



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Questions?

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Part IV

Wonderings as we look forward

Crosswalking CTE, Core Classes, & Community

Outside the box teaching & learning

What disruptions do we cause while still existing within the box?



Addressing the gaps

How can we lean on the "playlist" model to better equip students to move through our courses at their own pace?



Our piece of the pie

What happens if Empower[Ed] spreads to all three comprehensive high schools?

Adding value

What efficiencies can we offer learners through crosswalking
Core & CTE standards?



Stacking wins

How do we recognize, celebrate, & share what's working well?

Thank you!

Scan to learn more



Come visit us!

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twitter.com/ca_empowered