

### Vision

We firmly believe that learning opportunities for teachers and practicum students must mirror our learning vision for students. Teachers serve as examples of risk taking and collaboration by learning and exploring alongside their students. We've adopted an unofficial motto – "Don't afraid to get messy, just try it" We value process over product and perfection. This mindset changes the way we view challenges. We reframe them as opportunities for growth and innovation.



### Learning

**Collaboration and Connections.** A walk down Sunburst halls reveals, students working together in collaborative spaces. Students configure non-traditional furniture to facilitate collaboration and engagement. They are engaged in conversation, group problem solving and designing. Virtual gallery walks, newscasts, podcasts, interactive digital learning journals and iMovies are used to facilitate collaboration. Students frequently connect with other grades levels, schools and organizations.

**Personalized Learning Experiences.** Teachers utilize technology to design personalized experiences based on individual student needs and interests. Students have choice in how they learn and demonstrate their levels of understanding. For example, personalized learning journals, digital choice boards, collaborative presentations. A favorite success story is that of a 6<sup>th</sup> grade student who struggles academically, especially with traditional testing. His teacher gave him the opportunity to choose how to demonstrate his level of understanding on a Science unit. He chose to create a Keynote with audio explanations and visuals. After experiencing success, he proudly told his teacher, "I really do understand more than people think I do. Now I finally get to prove it."

**Meaningful.** Teachers plan objectives for each learning experience with a relevant, real-world connection.

### Success

- \* The number of teachers who consistently utilize technology for student-to-student collaboration increased by 37%
- \* The number of teachers who consistently and effectively utilize technology to personalize instruction increased by 24%
- \* Every teacher feels more confident taking risks, so much so they agreed to go live and unscripted for a virtual school tour during an Apple webinar.
- \* Every teacher tried multiple new strategies to enhance learning with technology.
- \* 100% of practicum students indicated they have a better understanding of enhancing learning with technology.
- \* Observation 'student engagement' indicators increased by 40%
- \* 91% of surveyed 3rd-6th grade students reported they are more engaged in their learning when they have choices, work with other students and use technology to learn.

### ➔ What's Next

We recognize that growth and success isn't an endpoint, it's ongoing. We will continue to provide an optimal learning environment for students by growing the culture that's been established, continuing to leverage technology, utilizing on-site Apple professional development and The Apple Teaching Learning Center. Our school is growing. Next year, five additional teachers will join our faculty. In addition to participating in a summer Apple training for educators, they will receive onboard training that focuses on our school culture and environment. We are excited to extend our learning community; our new faculty members will add to the energizing, collaborative and engaging environment at Sunburst.

