

Purpose statement

Issue: We serve students in grades 9-12 at three innovative high schools in Tacoma Public Schools: SOTA, SAMI, and IDEA. Our mission is to redefine public education by providing fully inclusive, real-world learning environments where students engage deeply with their chosen fields through mentorship, project-based learning, and place-based education. Without these opportunities, students in Tacoma would have limited access to authentic, hands-on experiences in the Arts, Sciences, and Engineering that prepare them for post-secondary success.

Vision: Our vision is to create meaningful learning experiences for every student by ensuring:

- **On-Time Graduation:** Every student graduates on time with a clear post-high school plan.
- **Core Values:** Every student embodies our values of empathy, community, balance, and thinking.
- **Academic Pathways:** Every student completes a focused academic pathway (Physical or Life Sciences at SAMI, Visual or Performing Arts at SOTA, Engineering or Design at IDEA).
- **Internship Experience:** Every junior completes a semester-long internship to connect their learning to career experiences.

Approach: We implement a mentorship model, project-based curriculum, and place-based school service delivery to guarantee:

1. **Four-Year Mentorship:** Each student and their family have a dedicated mentor throughout their high school experience.
2. **Industry-Connected Learning:** Students engage with professionals in their chosen fields through adjunct instruction and internships.
3. **Community Integration:** Students access rich community resources aligned with their place-based learning environment.

Stakeholders

- **Primary:** High school students enrolled in SOTA, SAMI, and IDEA.
- **Secondary:** Middle and elementary students engaged in enhancement programs, families of our students, surrounding community members, and partnering agencies.

How will you measure your outcomes?

- **Post-Secondary Readiness:** College, trade, or workforce placement rates.
- **Academic Performance:** Course completion and failure rates.
- **Graduation Rates:** On-time graduation for all students.
- **Industry Certifications:** Attainment of relevant credentials.
- **Competency-Based Assessments:** Mastery of ELA and Math competencies.

What specific board adopted benchmarks will be influenced?

- Academic Excellence – Ensuring all students achieve high standards.
- Health and Safety – Providing a secure and supportive learning environment.
- Partnerships – Strengthening community and industry collaborations.

Scope of work

Inputs	Outputs	Outcomes
• Co-Director Leadership Model	• On-time graduation aligned with High School & Beyond Plan	• Increased college and career readiness
• Mentor Groups (SEL Focus)	• Trusted adult relationships fostering safety and belonging	• Higher engagement and decreased discipline issues
• MTSS Intervention Framework	• Improved attendance, course completion, and skill mastery	• Personalized pathways for success
• Next Move Internship for Juniors	• Increased participation in internships and career readiness	• Stronger workforce connections and post-secondary placement
• Project-Based Curriculum (32 Credits)	• Pathways in the Arts, Sciences, and Engineering	• Higher skill mastery and post-secondary access
• Place-Based Learning	• Expanded access to museums, parks, and industry sites	• Increased real-world application of knowledge
• Instructional staff, mentors, and support personnel		
• Classroom & Project-Based Learning Supplies		
• Industry Partnerships & Adjunct Instructors (specialized professionals supporting student pathways)		
• Internship Program Coordination (ensuring all juniors complete meaningful workplace experiences)		

Partner Schools: SAMI, SOTA, & IDEA

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE



Professional Development for Staff & Mentors (training in mentorship, SEL, and interdisciplinary teaching)		
Student Transportation (support for field studies, internships, and community-based learning experiences)		
Technology & Learning Resources (tools for project-based and digital learning)		
Student Support Services (SEL programs, MTSS interventions, and mental health resources)		
Facility & Operational Costs (maintenance and resources to support innovative learning spaces)		

Budget detail

BRC	Total FTE	Salaries & benefits	Supplies	Contractual services	Travel	Capital outlay	Total



Tacoma School of the Arts
Science and Math Institute
School of Industrial Design, Engineering, and Art

Partner Schools

2025-26 Overview

Vision: We believe all students have the right to high-quality educational experiences that develop their unique needs and passion.

Mission: The mission of the Partner Schools is to change public education by emphasizing creativity and utilizing a fully inclusive model that educates the whole student through our core values of empathy, community, balance, and thinking.

Projected Budget

School	SAMI	SOTA	IDEA	Partner Schools
Projected Headcount	614.00	646.00	374.00	1,634.00
Funding Rate (Policy 2015R)	10,310.02	10,310.02	10,310.20	
2025-26 Budget	\$6,330,352.28	\$6,660,272.92	\$3,855,947.48	\$16,846,572.68
Spend Projection	-\$6,051,982.00	-\$6,835,543.00	-\$3,917,808.00	-\$16,805,333.00
	\$278,370.28	-\$175,270.08	-\$61,860.52	\$41,239.68

Community Partners



Teaching Staff

2024-2025 Teacher FTE	SAMI	SOTA	IDEA	Total
BE FTE	20.50	23.80	17.80	62.10
CTE FTE	5.80	6.60	4.60	17.00
	26.30	30.40	22.40	79.10

Empathy Community Balance Thinking

Program Highlights

- Mentor Group: focus on social-emotional growth, post-high planning, and community service
- Place-based instructional model with arts-focused access to museums and theaters at SOTA, Point Defiance Zoo, Park and Marina at SAMI and design and engineering firms at IDEA
- Full-inclusion special education model with 13.3% LRC enrollment and no pull-out SPED classes
- Fully-integrated CTE pathway alignment at each campus
 - SOTA- visual and performing arts
 - SAMI- life science and physical science
 - IDEA- industrial design and engineering
- Internship placements for every junior
- Project-based miniterm classes every January

Class of 2029 Choice Enrollment

