



PARAMOUNT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

GREAT THINGS ARE HAPPENING IN PARAMOUNT SCHOOLS



High School Promise Initiative

Dr. Ruth Pérez, Superintendent

Dr. Ryan D. Smith, Assistant Superintendent, Secondary Educational Services

Board Study Session

April 12, 2017



PARAMOUNT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

PREPARING STUDENTS FOR COLLEGE AND CAREERS

High School Promise Design Team Members

Teachers, Counselors, and Staff	Site and District Leadership	Board Members, Parents, Students, and Community
Gwen Ancil Christine Barboza Lisa Bravo Tamara Calero Maggie Flores Pam Gilreath Durrell Jackson Brent Jaffe Maria Juarez Melissa Marchesini Cinthia McCoy Alicia Megofna Becky Pérez Nancy Rivas John Teeples	Kelly Anderson Greg Francois Ruben Frutos Holly Hennessy Morrie Kosareff Myrna Morales Ruth Pérez Elizabeth Salcido Manuel San Miguel Ryan Smith Deborah Stark	Alicia Anderson Joshua Felix Vivian Hansen David Johnson Rosa Medal Martinez Barbara Pérez Teresita Zamudio

Guiding Questions

How can we improve upon our current HS programs?

How can we expand learning opportunities for HS students?



**High School
Promise**

What can we learn from other districts?

What research-based practices are making a difference?









Rank:	Job
1.	Dentist
2.	Nurse Practitioner
3.	Physician Assistant
4.	Statistician
5.	Orthodontist
6.	Nurse Anesthetist
7.	Pediatrician
8.	Computer Systems Analyst
9.	Obstetrician and Gynecologist
10.	Oral and Maxiofacial Surgeon
11.	Optometrist
12.	Occupational Therapy Assistant
13.	Software Developer
14.	Surgeon
15.	Nurse/Midwife
16.	Physical Therapist
17.	Anesthesiologist
17.	Physician
17.	Psychiatrist
20.	Mathematician



Top 10 skills

in 2020

1. Complex Problem Solving
2. Critical Thinking
3. Creativity
4. People Management
5. Coordinating with Others
6. Emotional Intelligence
7. Judgment and Decision Making
8. Service Orientation
9. Negotiation
10. Cognitive Flexibility

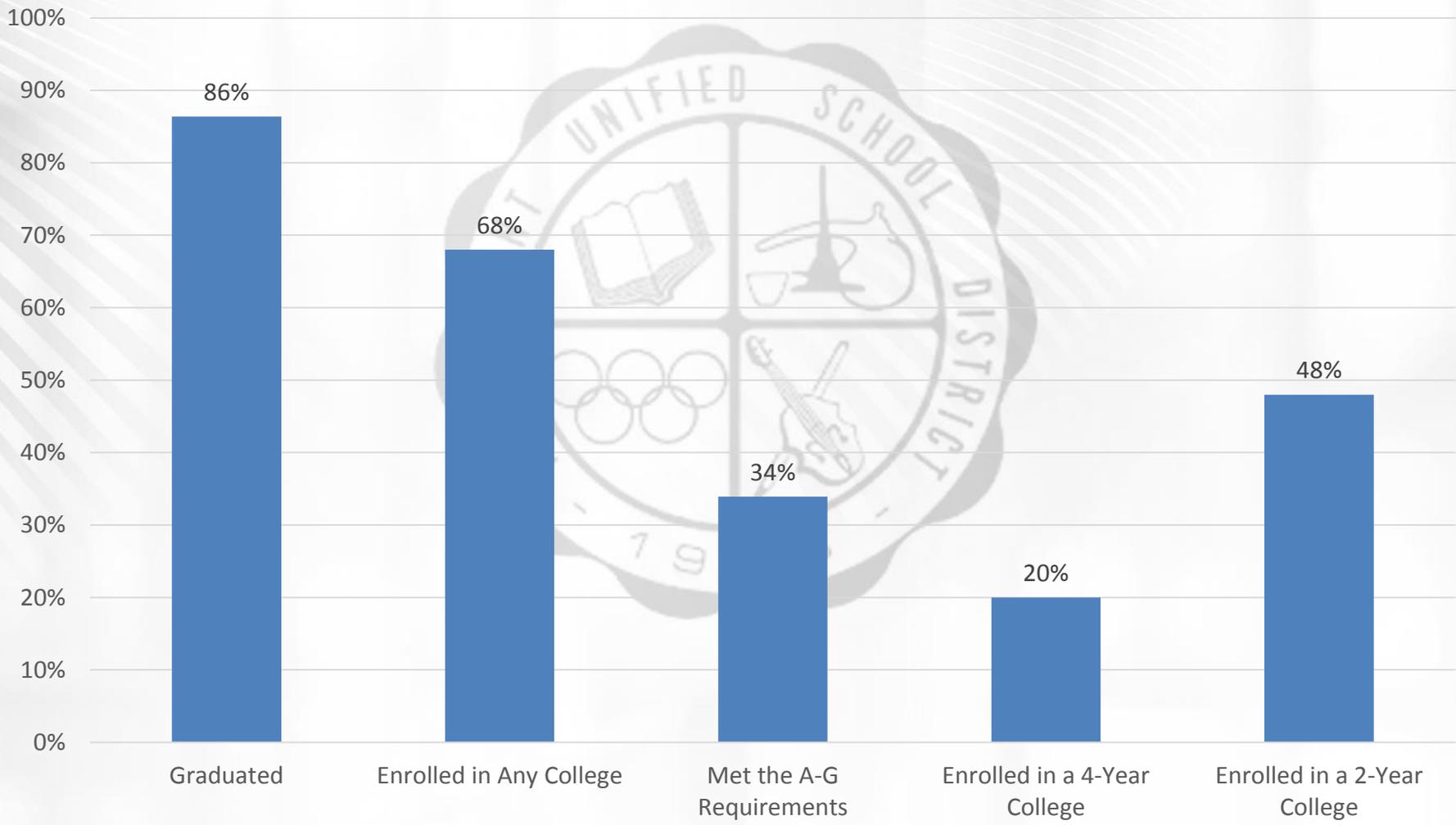
in 2015

1. Complex Problem Solving
2. Coordinating with Others
3. People Management
4. Critical Thinking
5. Negotiation
6. Quality Control
7. Service Orientation
8. Judgment and Decision Making
9. Active Listening
10. Creativity





A closer look at the Class of 2015

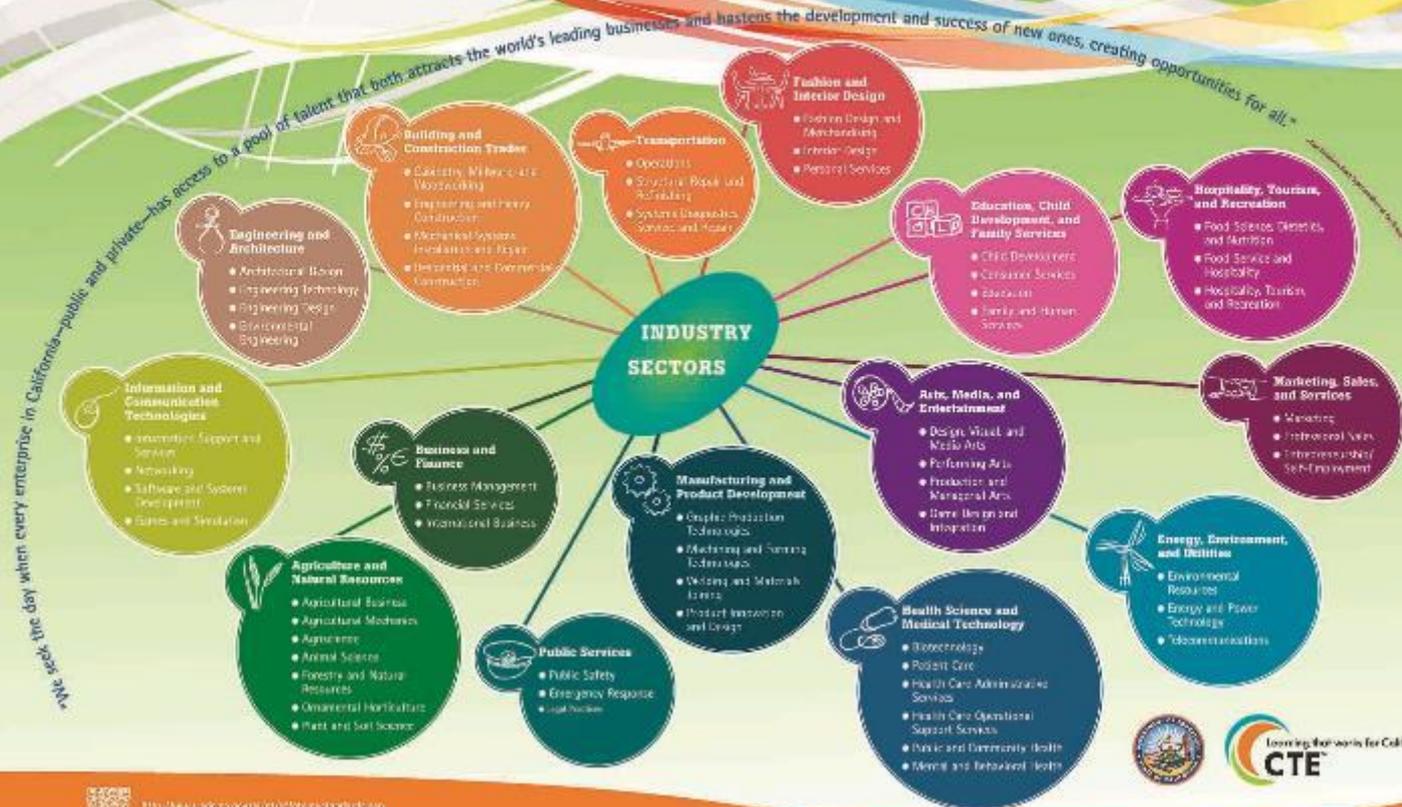


Source: National Student Clearinghouse and California Department of Education

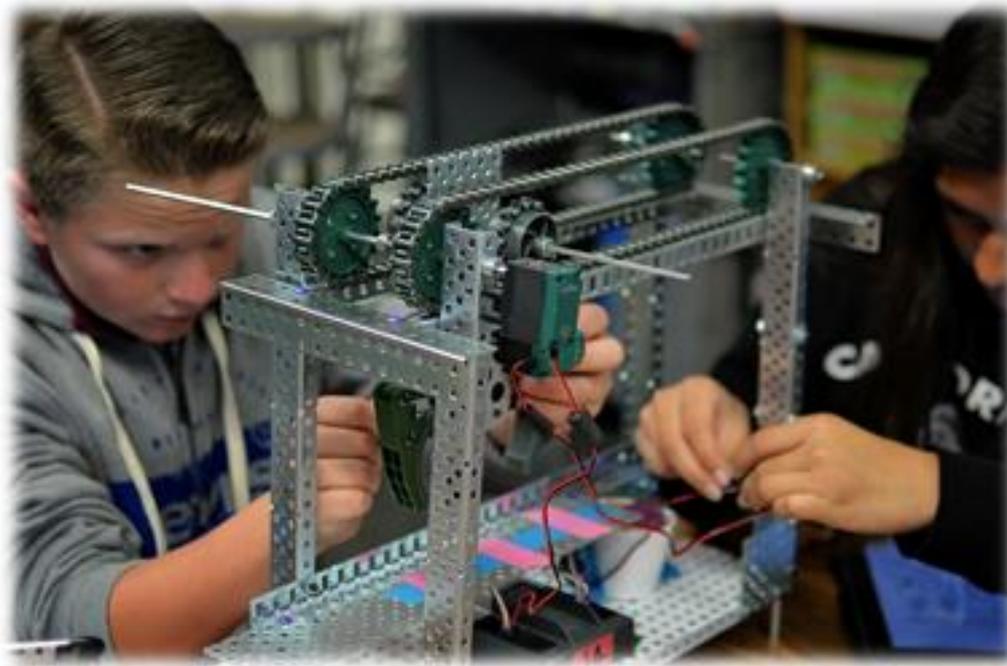
CTE INDUSTRIES AND PATHWAYS

California's Career Technical Education:

Preparing Students for the 21st Century and Beyond



Project Lead the Way's Mission: Empower students to thrive in an evolving world.



[What is PLTW?](#)



LINKED
LEARNING

Four Core Components



Rigorous academics that prepare students to take college courses and meet the admission standards of California's public universities



Sequence of high-quality career-technical education courses that deliver concrete knowledge and skills, emphasizing real-world applications of academic learning



Work-based learning in real-world workplaces via job shadowing, apprenticeships, internships, and other professional skill-building opportunities



Comprehensive supports and services that are embedded as central components of a program of study to ensure that all students stay on track and graduate ready to transition to the next phase of their education or care

Integration of the Components is Key!



PARAMOUNT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
PREPARING STUDENTS FOR COLLEGE AND CAREERS

Project Based Learning



Project Planning Protocol

Planning a Real World, Interdisciplinary Project
in _____ (1 hour)
Created by Kim Merritt @ Da Vinci Schools



School Visitations

High Tech High



Del Lago Academy



McBride High School



Da Vinci Schools



A brief look at the type of things we saw at High Tech High

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XmSFvPvmRQs>



Common Themes

#1) STEM/CTE Curriculum

- Project Based Learning (PLTW)
- Link Learning
- CTE/Science/Math (types)
- Standards are used as a guide
- Teacher developed curriculum (differs from district)
- Question: What types of formative assessments are used?
- Projects are cross-curricular when applicable (not forced) - Note: is difficult to include in a real-world way
- Focus on 21st Century Skills/soft skills
- Skills USA/competitions
- X BLOCK CLASSES ALLOW FOR MESA, SCIENCE, SOLAR CUP FOR STEM LINK FOR STUDENTS
- 1:1 DEVICE & BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE FOR ALL STUDENTS
- PLTW (4/4 VISITS)
- Industry partners have influence in curriculum
- WALL to wall vs. Select Group
- Engineering!!
- One student -> one path
- memorialized w/ Photo/Video Document / Videos Etc.

#2) Instruction

Project Based Learning (HTH)

PLTW/CTE/STEM

Competency Based (Dok Lag)

HTH - Teachers as learners

Teacher generated curriculum -> Autonomy!

- Teacher collaboration ✓ 4/4 VISITS ✓
- Lack of AP Courses / Option to complete ✓
- Link Learning ✓ honor component ✓
- Alternative Grading System ✓
- Electives are after school ✓
- FLIPPED CLASSROOMS
- Inquiry Based / DOK 4 / QUAD 4
- MAKER SPACE HTH ✓
- PATHWAYS INSTRUCTION ✓
- Collaborative learning ✓
- Teacher = Mentor, -> student-centered
- 3rd room for student errors & are expected & encouraged!

#3) Learning Environments

Project Based Learning

- ✓ Student autonomy ✓
- ✓ Informal ✓ High expectations ✓
- ✓ Access to technology ✓
- ✓ Strong partnerships with business / community (Entrepreneurship)
- ✓ Collaborative ✓
- ✓ Engaged students - direct connection to real life ✓
- ✓ Self-motivation ✓
- Advisory period!
- No Bells
- Restorative Practices ✓
- Relaxed Learning Environment ✓ (change during pilot)
- Longer school days / year
- teacher as facilitator ✓
- Student focus ✓
- FLIPPED CLASSROOMS ✓
- TABLES THAT CAN ACCOMMODATE DIFFERENT CLASSROOM LAYOUTS ✓
- MAKER SPACE - HTH ✓
- STUDENT CHOICE OF SCHOOL - WANT TO BE THERE ✓
- STUDENTS PRESENT IN MOST CLASSES (DAILY TIMES)
- STUDENT-DESIGNED ELECTIVES (2/4)
- X BLOCK
- STUDENT-DESIGNED PROJECTS @ JR
- Space for collaboration - similar to a library
- CTE space reflects the industry learning environment does not always = class room

#4) Equipment / Tools

- Individual access to devices (Chrome books)
- 1:1 Tech ✓
- Spaces for collaboration ✓
- Lab that replicated workspaces technology and tools found and used in industry.
- Seating that facilitates collaboration.
- How do they keep up with current equipment and tools?
- Robotics lab ✓ VEX
- 3D Printers ✓
- VR lab
- Code writing YEAR OF CODE
- Learning Management Systems ✓
- Industry donations
- m-learning on long
- MAKER SPACE
- STUDENT-DESIGNED LEARNING SPACES (UNFINISHED SPACES)

#5) Technology

- ✓ COMPUTERS WITHIN CLASSROOMS ✓
- ✓ 1:1 BYOD @ 3 VISITS ✓
- ✓ VARIETY OF STATE OF THE ART TECHNOLOGY TO SUPPORT PROGRAMS, STUDENT TEACHERS
- ✓ PROJECT LEARNING HAD A COMPUTER COMPONENT (4/4 VISITS) ✓
- ✓ Google Docs used throughout (cloud manage many management)
- Technology matched industry and pathway
- Software that was relevant to industry
- High-speed Internet that is consistent
- Device changing Room / Study room
- LMS (Schoology / Google Docs)
- Tech = tool, not the curriculum
- Updated tech for teachers
- Cross platform proficiency (android & IOS)
- student research in most subjects

#6) Scheduling

- Block schedules ✓ ✓ ✓
- Villages
- flexibility in student schedules w/ internships and partnerships
- less than 1,000 students ✓ ✓ ✓
- 500-800
- pathway pure core (2 schools) ✓
- 2/4 VISITS TRAVEL IN COUNTRIES ✓
- ✓ advisory period (cohort - 4 yrs) 3/4 VISITS ✓
- in Tech & DeLuca VISITS ✓
- ✓ X BLOCK (STUDENT CHOICE) 2/4 VISITS ✓
- elective / block-type to make up ✓
- 2/4 SPECIAL EDUCATION (RSP ACCESS) D.L.A. ✓
- ✓ STUDENT INTERNSHIPS (IN DAY SCHEDULE) D.L.A. ✓
- ✓ VIRTUAL SCHEDULE ONLINE INTERNSHIPS ✓
- ✓ Schedule reflects Teacher planning time for cross-curricular PBL within subject ✓
- NO OR Support Subject specific Support Course -> ELP / Lit / math / math support etc..

#7) Partnerships

- Establish relationships w/ Marketing or Community Outlets in HTH
- All schools established / maintain ✓
- Intentions for students ✓
- Ongoing evaluation of partnerships (Some eliminated) ✓ ✓
- Partners provided feedback about areas of strength / growth needs for the students / program / curriculum ✓
- range of WBL opportunities ✓
- priority! ✓ ✓
- A designated person in charge of 4/4 fostering partnerships ✓ ✓
- FOSTERING COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS IN NEARBY BUSINESSES (ROBINS, PHILMAR) LINKED TO PATHWAYS & STUDENT INTERESTS ✓
- Producers from Partnerships are good for beneficial to both parties: retention ✓
- How do we partner up with CSU & UC & Community college?
- Partnerships: based on the industry or proximity?

#8) Other Common Themes

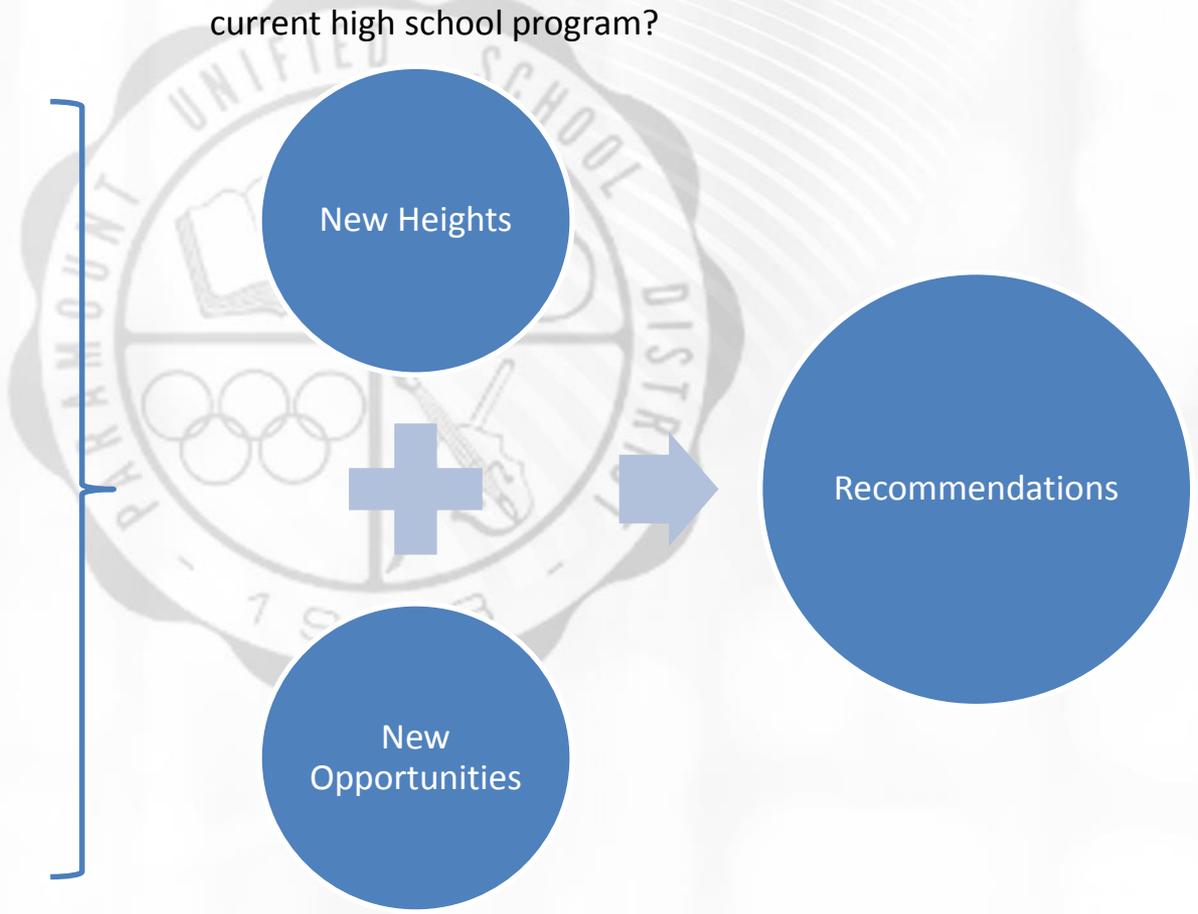
- ✓ Advisory = Create personal relationships w/ Focused PD ✓
- Strong Stu/Adult relationships ✓
- Schools w/ choice (Criteria) ✓
- Internships as part of school day ✓
- Narrow focus of course offerings - specific to pathway ✓
- Program Teacher selection process ✓
- Principals do not micromanage teachers
- Strong leadership w/ growth mindset
- Adults are referred to by first name (4/4)
- Non-traditional classroom structures, outside! ✓
- Creative & intentional use of space ✓
- Interactions to the district
- positive school climate ✓ ✓
- teacher autonomy ✓
- BUILT A SENSE OF COMMUNITY 4/4 VISITS ✓
- VARYING SITE TO SITE
- REAL WORLD PATHWAYS ✓
- Strong Student voice regarding the campus & what is happening
- Pride sense of pride from students
- student choice in extra-curricular, beyond sports
- ✓ Sports is not emphasized on extra-curricular
- Class ambassadors
- ✓ Students cannot fail - repeats parts of courses
- ✓ teacher / student connection



Developing Recommendations

How can we improve upon our current high school program?

- Areas of Focus:
- Learning Environments
 - Linked Learning
 - Project Based Learning
 - Project Lead the Way
 - Technology
 - Scheduling
 - Work Experience
 - College Partnerships
 - School Climate



How can we expand learning opportunities for high school students through a new high school?



Key Recommendations From Our Team

Recommendation	New Heights	New Opportunities
1. Learning Environments	<p>Modernize STEM facilities at Paramount High School to ensure that our CTE programs are adequately supported and have the capacity for growth and expansion, and are adaptable when necessary. Develop CTE programs at Buena Vista High school, and ensure adequate facilities to support them.</p> <p>Upgrade classroom furniture that makes environments flexible and fosters collaboration</p>	<p>Open a small, STEM-focused high school that will provide students with an intensive learning experience in one or more fields that are a) growing, b) in demand, c) pay well and d) appealing to students and parents.</p> <p>Ensure adequate facilities for supporting the identified STEM curriculum(a) as well as design goals.</p>
2. Linked Learning Pathways (LL)	<p>Use the Linked Learning framework to connect learning in both CTE and academic courses.</p>	<p>Linked Learning is a key design element of the new high school opportunity.</p>
3. Project Based Learning (PBL)	<p>Use Project Based Learning as a framework for teaching and learning within our Linked Learning pathways.</p>	<p>Project Based Learning is a key design element of the new high school opportunity.</p>



Key Recommendations From Our Team

Recommendation	New Heights	New Opportunities
4. Project Lead the Way (PLTW)	Expand Paramount High School’s PLTW Engineering program, and work toward offering at least one more PLTW program.	Project Lead the Way coursework serves as the foundation of the STEM curriculum at the new high school.
5. Technology	All students are provided with a device on a 1-1 basis. All stakeholders are connected through a comprehensive Learning Management System which is used to accelerate and personalize teaching and learning. Classrooms are outfitted with a basic technology suite.	Integrated technology is a key design element of the new high school opportunity.
6. Scheduling	Establish committees to determine whether or not current bell schedules at PHS and BVHS are meeting student needs, and revise if necessary. Factors to consider: time for completing projects, lab work, and the like, student support, advisory, cross-curricular work, and collaboration.	Collaboratively create a schedule that supports the key design principles of the school – i.e. Linked Learning, Project Based Learning, PLTW, technology, etc. Emphasis will be placed on a schedule that offers flexibility, fosters collaboration, and builds a sense of community.



Key Recommendations From Our Team

Recommendation	New Heights	New Opportunities
7. Work Experience	Ensure that each CTE pathway/program at PHS and BVHS have an internship and work experience component for students.	Successful completion of an internship and work experience is a graduation requirement from the new high school opportunity.
8. College Partnerships	Articulate as many CTE courses at Paramount High School with local colleges and universities as possible, and develop opportunities for dual enrollment both during the school day and beyond. Establish a “promise” agreement with a community college and four-year college/university that guarantees admission and provides supports and services for students if specified criteria are met.	College partnerships are a key design element of the new high school opportunity.
9. School Climate	Introduce Restorative Practices at PHS and BVHS as a framework for supporting students and for increasing collaboration and communication among staff.	Restorative Practices are a key design element of the new high school opportunity.



PARAMOUNT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

PREPARING STUDENTS FOR COLLEGE AND CAREERS

Criteria for Selecting the New High School Location

Identity

- Stands out from Paramount High School as a truly unique educational opportunity that can stand on its own
- Focused on providing intensive Career Technical Education (CTE) learning opportunities around a Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) field

Proximity to Potential Industry and College Partners

- Internships, work experience, and college readiness will be fundamental to the new high school

Maintain Enrollment and Reduce Flight

- The new high school should be located in a region where students currently leave the district to attend schools in other areas— e.g. Long Beach
- The new high school location should relieve overcrowding at Paramount High School

Facilities

- Can be easily renovated or constructed to support the identified CTE program(s) and support core design principles like Linked Learning, Project Based Learning, collaboration, student support, etc.
- Can be easily renovated or constructed to satisfy various statutory regulations that govern the opening of a new high school

Impact

- The new high school should have a minimal impact on the operations, facilities, resources, management, etc. of any existing schools and the students and families that they serve



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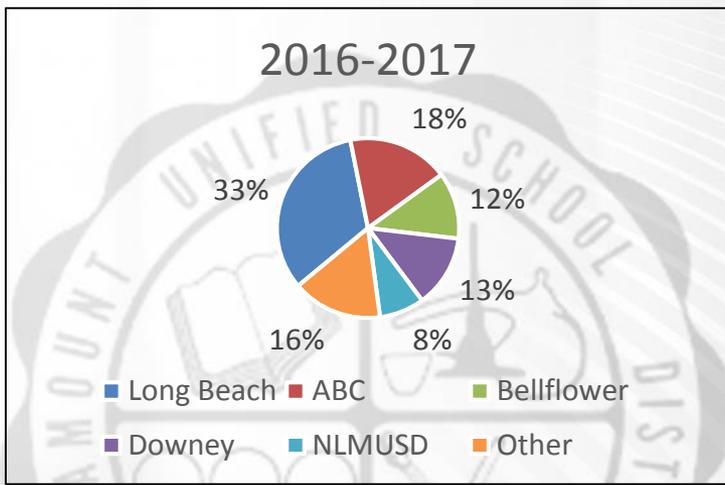
PREPARING STUDENTS FOR COLLEGE AND CAREERS

New High School Analysis of Potential Sites

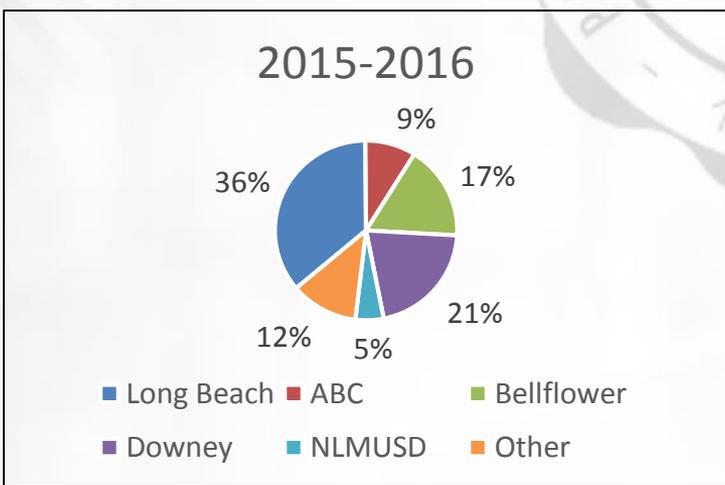
Criteria	Lakewood (Currently Unused)	Paramount Park (Currently Serves 796 Students)	Tanner (Currently Serves 602 students)	Wirtz (Currently Serves 681 students)
Identity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New HS will be its own location Location in unserved area of district 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New HS will be its own location Close proximity to current high school may not be perceived as a new option from PHS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New HS will be its own location Close proximity to current high school may not be perceived as a new option from PHS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New HS will be its own location Close proximity to current high school may not be perceived as a new option from PHS
Proximity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> < 1 mile from Lakewood Regional Medical Center (around corner), a large comprehensive hospital Close to aerospace industry < 3 miles from LBCC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adjacent to oil industry and some manufacturing < 1 mile from Suburban Medical Center, a small long term care facility < 3 miles from Kaiser Bellflower, a comprehensive hospital < 7 miles from Cerritos College 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adjacent to recycling businesses and some manufacturing < 3 miles from Suburban Medical Center, a small long term care facility < 3 miles from Kaiser Bellflower, a comprehensive hospital < 8 miles from Cerritos College 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adjacent to oil industry and some manufacturing < 1 mile from Suburban Medical Center, a small long term care facility < 2 miles from Kaiser Bellflower, a comprehensive hospital < 5 miles from Cerritos College
Enrollment and Flight	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eliminates the possibility of a charter school locating there that would take PUSD students Provides a high school offering in a section of PUSD that is currently unserved Most 6th and 9th graders leave PUSD for specialized high schools and programs in LBUUSD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students/parents may not be receptive to enrolling in a school that has been an active MS for some time Doesn't provide a high school option for an unserved section of PUSD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students/parents may not be receptive to enrolling in a school that has been an active MS for some time Doesn't provide a high school option for an unserved section of PUSD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students/parents may not be receptive to enrolling in a school that has been an active MS for some time Doesn't provide a high school option for an unserved section of PUSD
Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Renovations and improvements can take place immediately 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Small window for renovations, improvements, and upgrades – i.e. summer before opening 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Small window for renovations, improvements, and upgrades – i.e. summer before opening 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Small window for renovations, improvements, and upgrades – i.e. summer before opening
Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Location is currently unused, getting started wouldn't impact any other school sites and would be easy for the district to support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must relocate students and staff Potential layoff of some staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must relocate students and staff Potential layoff of some staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must relocate students and staff Potential layoff of some staff



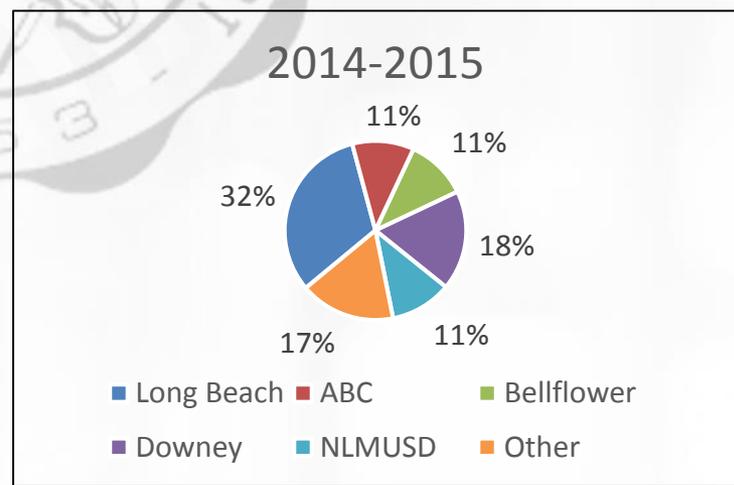
PUSD 9th Grade Inter-District Permits



60 Students Left PUSD



76 Students Left PUSD



57 Students Left PUSD



PARAMOUNT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

PREPARING STUDENTS FOR COLLEGE AND CAREERS

A Closer Look at our Neighbors

District	Specialized High School(s)	PLTW	Linked Learning	# of Comprehensive HS CTE Pathways
Long Beach	Browning HS CAMS McBride HS Renaissance HS for the Arts Sato Academy	Biomedical Computer Science Engineering	Yes	34
ABC	Whitney HS	Biomedical Computer Science Engineering	Yes	18
Bellflower	-	Engineering	No	13
Downey	-	Biomedical Computer Science Engineering	No	13
NLMUSD	Southeast Academy	Biomedical Computer Science Engineering	Yes	13
PUSD	-	Engineering	No	4



PARAMOUNT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

PREPARING STUDENTS FOR COLLEGE AND CAREERS

We surveyed 6th and 7th grade students and parents about a new high school opportunity.

We received 2,825 responses:

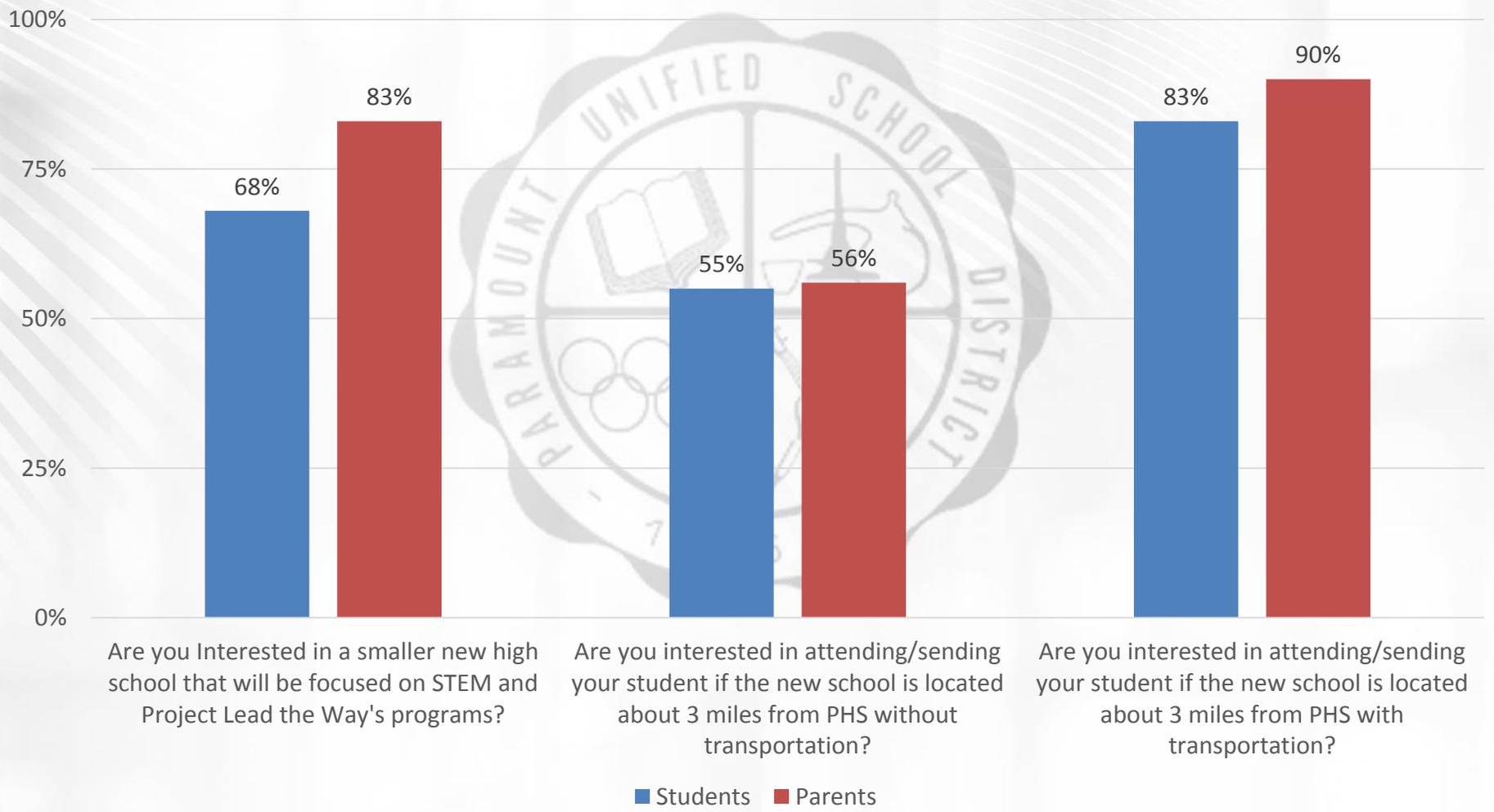
1,143 6th Graders

1,119 7th Graders

563 Parents



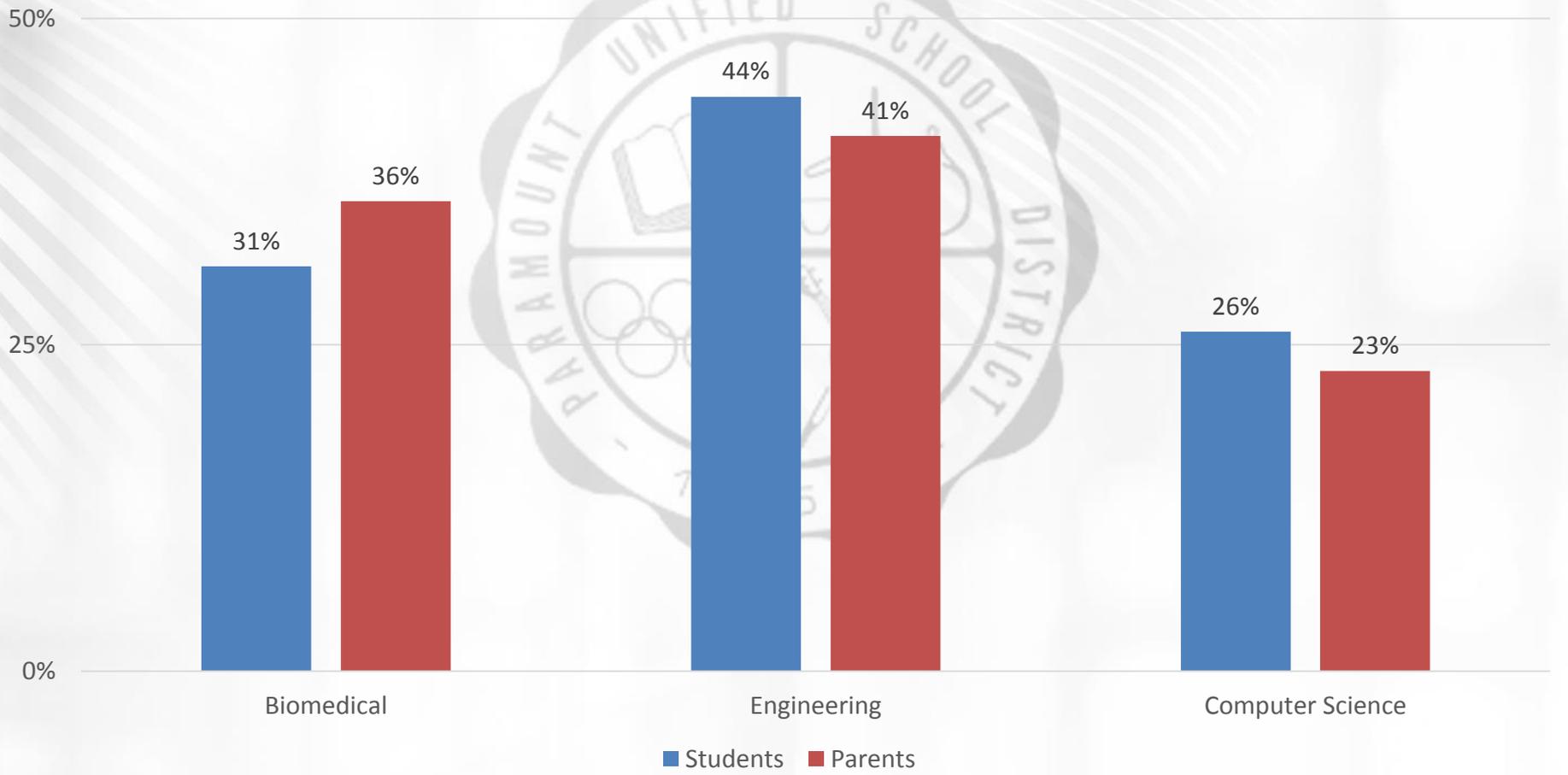
Student and Parent Feedback





Student and Parent Feedback

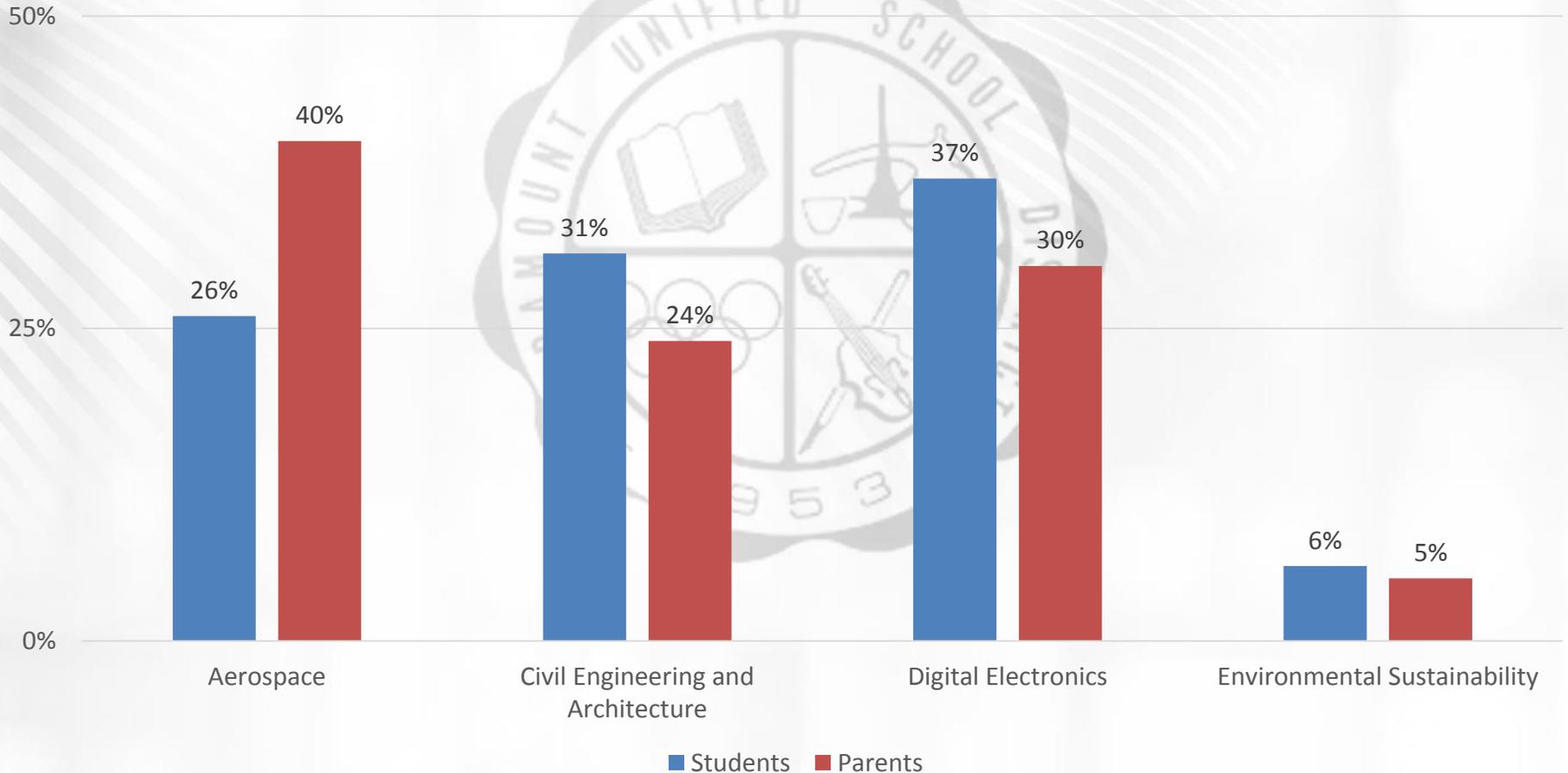
Which STEM field most interests you?





Student and Parent Feedback

If you chose Engineering, which Engineering field most interests you?



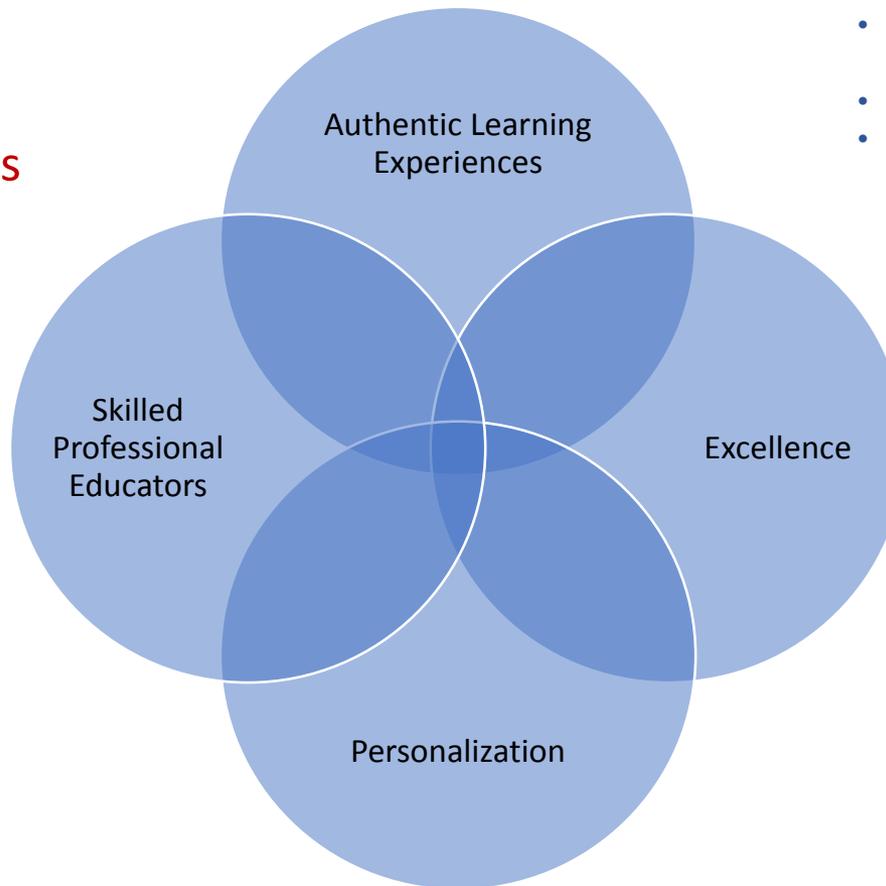


New High School Potential Core Design Principles

Students are presented with learning experiences – both in the classroom and beyond – that are rigorous and relevant and lay the foundation for success in both college and career.

Structures:

- PLTW STEM Curriculum
- Project Based Learning
- Work Experience
- College Board Partnerships
- College and Industry Partnerships
- Integrated technology
- Classroom Environments



Teachers and counselors are provided with the tools, resources, and trainings necessary for meeting the academic and social-emotional needs of a diverse group of students.

Structures:

- Collaboration Time
- Ongoing Personalized Professional Development
- Flexible Scheduling
- Technology

Students are immersed in a school culture that fosters and instills excellence in both academics and character.

Structures:

- Restorative Practices
- Competency Based Assessments
- Standards Based Grading
- Built in Time for Student Support
- Advisory Periods
- Community Service

Strong relationships are the foundation for success. Students are known as individuals, and their unique learning needs are met by a team of educators, professionals, and community members.

Structures:

- Small School Size
- Restorative Practices
- Competency Based Assessments
- Standards Based Grading
- Advisory Periods
- Community Service
- Flexible scheduling



Next Steps for New High School Development

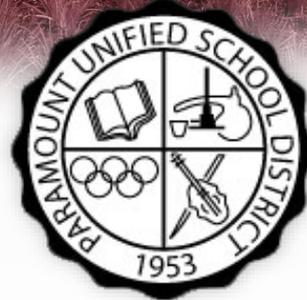
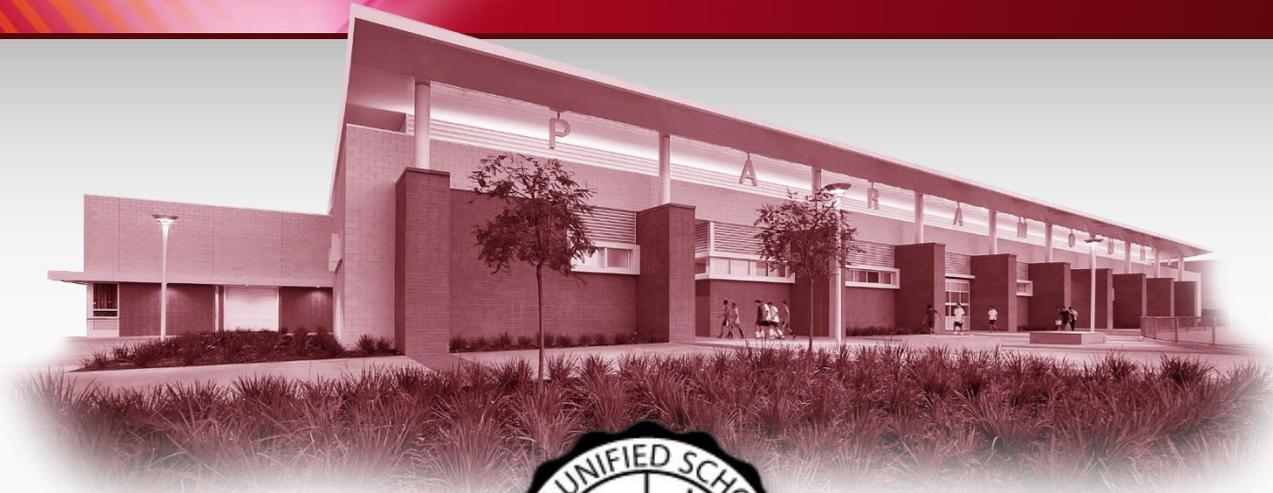
2017

- **Identify CTE Theme(s)**
 - Review Career Data and Research
 - Survey Parents and Students
 - **PLTW Biomedical, Engineering, or Computer Science**
 - **Single Pathway**
- **Determine Size**
 - **Start with 9th grade**
 - **1st year enrollment goal: ≈ 150 students**
 - **500-700 Students**
 - **No athletics**
- **Determine Location**
 - **Lakewood Site**
- **Hire Principal**
- **Establish “Design Team”**
- **Identify industry and college partners**
 - e.g. **Lakewood Regional Medical Center, Boeing**
 - e.g. **Long Beach City, Cerritos, Compton, and USC**
- **Identify Founding Faculty**
 - Core teachers, counselor, classified
- **Name the school and identify a mascot**
- **Begin community meetings**

2017-2018

- **Key trainings:**
 - CEL Instructional Framework
 - Project Based Learning
 - PLTW Training
 - Linked Learning
 - Restorative Practices
- **Visit High School Exemplars**
- **Establish mission and vision of school**
- **Create “bell schedule” and related structures**
- **Develop assessment and grading policies**
 - **Competency Based Assessment**
 - **Standards Based Grading**
- **Select founding faculty and staff**
- **Identify and secure furniture**
- **Identify and secure supplies to support the CTE curriculum**
- **Identify and secure instructional materials**
- **Identify and secure classroom technology**
- **Design curriculum, assessments, and projects for Year 1**
- **Recruit students**
 - **≈ 150 committed families by May, 2018**
- **Plan summer bridge program**

PARAMOUNT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT



The mission of the Paramount Unified School District is to ensure learning and success for each student by providing a quality education.