

Iowa BIG Annual Presentation to the College Community School Board

Dr. Trace Pickering, Co-Founder & Executive Director

Monday, February

BIG by the numbers

- ▶ 80 Prairie students this spring. 2 graduated at semester
- ▶ 39 Projects
- ▶ 640 Standards Documented in Projects
- ▶ All students have a Purpose Statement & a Flight Plan
- ▶ Every student was involved in a 4:1 interview to begin the year - time with the entire team to learn about them, what they wanted to accomplish, etc.
- ▶ # of COVID & Weather-Related In-the-Moment Shifts? Umm, lots and lots!

Prairie Junior Kacy Bruner

SLACK

Current Projects: 39

Refugees

Cards Against Insanity

Sleep in Heavenly Peace

Gems of Hope Marketing

Hawkeye Downs Racing School

Rockets 2: Electric Boogaloo

Foster Care Project

Willis Dady Remodeling

Willis Dady Job Fair

Power in Peace

Aniteach

Restaurant Week

Critter Crusaders

Power in Peace Pod

2nd Stitch

Czech Museum Mural

Coasting to Recovery

Hydroponics Fall 2020

Internet Bus

D-Ravel Blog

Poet's Park

Impact Stories SHP

The Bossman Experience

Gems of Hope: Dexter

PHS Diversity Vids

Raining Rose Butterfly Garden

Raining Rose Marketing

Gamify the Climate

Adaptive Technology

CR Schools Foundation: Social Media Plan

Recruitment Commercial

Special Needs Resources

CR Gun Violence

Community Storytelling

The Junket

Mt. Mercy Sports Thing

Main Street Marketing

3 Pieces I Want to Share Tonight

- ▶ 1. BIG is a “Project-Based” Program. FALSE
- ▶ BIG is a LEARNER-CENTERED PROGRAM. We happen to find authentic projects a useful vehicle for learning, along with seminars, strong relationships, 1:1 conversations, and reflecting on values and skill sets.
- ▶ Key takeaway: It’s not the quality of the project’s outcome that matters. It’s the learning that happens because the project’s outcome was pursued.

Assessment at BIG

	Individual	Group
Self-Assessment	<p>Purpose: reflect, internalize, and own learning around academic standards and BIG values (UC's)</p> <p>Tools & Documentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Purpose/flight plan/*learning plan - Values self-assessment and spider diagram - Standards reflection/self-assessment & WR work - *Personal Story <p>Schedule:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1:1's Fall, Winter, Spring, Summative - Seminars - weekly/bi-weekly - Personal Story/reflection(audio, video, and/or written) <p>*=aspirational/not yet prototyped</p>	<p>Purpose: reflect, internalize and own responsibility for group function & engagement</p> <p>Tools & Documentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Retrospectives (Retromat) - *Values Reflection/Assessment Form - Standards Reflection/Assessment Form <p>Schedules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Retrospective calendar (approx every 4 weeks) - Quarterly Values & Standards Reflection/Assessment - Culminating team presentation of learning & achievement
Professional Assessment	<p>Purpose: to receive targeted, actionable feedback on learning, growth and performance</p> <p>Tools & Documentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Feedback/coaching on purpose/plans - Weight room/seminar work - Spider diagram completion & reflection - 1:1 Meetings <p>Schedule:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1:1's Fall, Winter, Spring, Summative - Seminars - weekly/bi-weekly -WR feedback - Documented reflection feedback 	<p>Purpose: to receive targeted, actionable feedback on progress, growth, and performance</p> <p>Tools & Documentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Staff coaching & feedback on values/standards progress - *Partner/external mentor coaching & feedback - Retrospectives - *Review/Defense of Learning <p>Schedule:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Retrospective calendar (approx every 4 weeks) - Quarterly partner/mentor feedback and assessment - Review/defense - at least once yr

Iowa BIG Values/Universal Constructs

- ▶ Purpose
- ▶ Responsibility
- ▶ Authenticity
- ▶ Appreciation of Humanity
- ▶ Leadership
- ▶ Learning
- ▶ Creativity
- ▶ Communities

Focus on Lifetime Values/Universal Constructs

Purpose

- ▶ Purpose focuses your intention or aim, creates meaning, and helps you better sense the direction you should be going. Purpose helps you to be resilient in the face of adversity and setback. Your purpose serves as an important guide to your thoughts, words, actions, and habits. Your purpose(s) change and adapt as you grow, learn, and experience more and more things.
- ▶ **State 6: World-Class Performance.** Top 5% in the world. People at this level have such a crystal clear sense of why they are on the earth that their entire life is focused and centered on that purpose. People at this level are obsessively pursuing something far larger than themselves. (E.g. Einstein, Mother Theresa, Nelson Mandela,...)
- ▶ **State 5: Professional Performance.** Your purpose(s) is/are the primary driving force for your life and is the lens from which you see the world. Your actions and behaviors are highly consistent with your personal purpose or mission and is far bigger than yourself. Your purpose/mission is what drives your decisions and actions and often morphs/changes over time.
- ▶ **State 4: Focused.** I have crafted and continue to hone my personal purpose and I can clearly articulate why I am here at BIG and what I am trying to learn and accomplish. As such, I routinely:
 - ▶ ● Reflect to help me stay on course and make decisions regarding my habits, behaviors and actions ● Am able to see how my purpose connects with others' purposes and larger purposes beyond myself ● Make better decisions by prioritizing my work, making appropriate choices, and showing initiative and self-direction by taking action and following through
 - ▶ ● Accept responsibility for and ownership of my own learning and actions
 - ▶ ● Demonstrate investment in my work and my team's work and in striving to make us all awesome ● Persevere and stay focused during times of challenge, confusion, and uncertainty

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- ▶ **State 3: Engaging.** I have a written statement of my purpose and periodically reflect on it. I can identify why I am at BIG and have a general sense of what I'm trying to learn from it and get out of it. I'm still somewhat inconsistent in making sure my actions, decisions and behaviors are in line with my stated mission and/or still wrestle with the belief that my purpose statement can really be that helpful. I generally accept that I own my own learning and actions but sometimes try to blame other people or circumstances for my actions.
- ▶ **State 2: Aware.** I have a written statement of purpose and still see it more as an “assignment” than anything that can be helpful to me. I'm working to be more consistent with my decisions, habits and behaviors. It is still pretty easy for me to give up quickly and/or not really think about why I'm doing what I'm doing or trying to understand why. I'm generally helpful to my teammates and contribute to my teams more out of obligation and expectation than from my own sense of purpose or mission.
- ▶ **State 1: Unaware.** I generally view purpose statements as unnecessary and somewhat silly or stupid. I don't yet see how it can help me be more productive and give me a sense of direction. I'm inconsistent in developing positive habits and I quit pretty quickly when things seem difficult or I don't understand why I have to do what I'm being asked to do. I generally don't contribute much beyond the minimum to my teams.
- ▶ *Demonstrates UC's: Collaboration, Productivity, & Accountability*

Impact on BIG w/Linn Mar's Exit

CHALLENGES

- ▶ Dropping from two family tables to one
- ▶ Losing 4 fantastic teachers
- ▶ Will need to make a few other cuts

OPPORTUNITIES

- ▶ Return to focus on the two originating Districts & their Vision and Mission
- ▶ Growing the size of the NewBo Family Table
- ▶ Can cut costs to get the price closer to our target of $\frac{1}{2}$ of state allotment
- ▶ Alburnett will keep BIG alive by opening a BIG in Alburnett & maybe a few other districts